FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-92-056
Monday
23 March 1992

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-92-056 CONTENTS *23 March 1992*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Residents' Claim to U.S. Complex Land Rejected *[KYODO]* ... 1
Okinawa To Review Land-Lease Contract System *[Naha TV]* ... 1
Russia's Kozyrev Continues Visit Activities ... 1
    Urges DPRK Nuclear Inspection *[KYODO]* ... 1
    Suggests Difficulty With '56 Pact *[KYODO]* ... 2
    Urges Islands Dispute Compromise *[KYODO]* ... 2
    Concludes Visit; Departs 22 Mar *[KYODO]* ... 2
Miyazawa Hopes for Yeltsin Visit 'Breakthrough' *[KYODO]* ... 3
Watanabe Warns Against Optimism in Dispute *[KYODO]* ... 3
Russian Nuclear Experts Arrive for Training *[KYODO]* ... 3
Cambodia's Sihanouk Urges Troops for UNTAC *[KYODO]* ... 4
Hun Sen Urges SDF Participation in Cambodia *[KYODO]* ... 4
    Thanks Tokyo for Contributions *[Tokyo TV]* ... 4
    Requests Administrators, Police *[KYODO]* ... 5
    PKO Bill Adoption 'Precondition' *[Tokyo TV]* ... 5
Miyazawa on Support for SDF Peacekeeping Role *[KYODO]* ... 5
    Tells Hun Sen of Determination *[KYODO]* ... 6
Bilateral Talks With ROK Slated for 26 Mar *[KYODO]* ... 6
Peru's Fujimori Thanks Kumamoto for Contribution *[KYODO]* ... 6
'Sleeping' Savings Planned for International Aid *[KYODO]* ... 7
Businessman's Kidnapping in Panama Reported *[KYODO]* ... 7
Tokyo To Remove Sake Classification System *[KYODO]* ... 7
Finn-Turned-Japanese Wins Municipal Election *[KYODO]* ... 7
Komeito Announces Platform for Jul Elections *[KYODO]* ... 7
Leaders Denounce Attempt on Kanemaru's Life *[KYODO]* ... 8
    Miyazawa Apologizes for Security *[KYODO]* ... 8
BOJ Head Mieno Foresees Economic Recovery *[KYODO]* ... 9
    Seeks Shift to Sustained Growth *[KYODO]* ... 9
Miyazawa Optimistic Regarding Economic Forecast *[KYODO]* ... 9
Money Supply Continues 'Low' Growth Trend *[KYODO]* ... 10
Steelmakers Decide To Raise Monthly Wages *[KYODO]* ... 10
MITI Plans Environment-Benign Factory Systems *[KYODO]* ... 10

Mongolia

Government Hopes To Develop Ties With Europe *[Beijing XINHUA]* ... 11
Three Political Parties Form Election Coalition *[Moscow International]* ... 11
MUPPO Election of New Chairwoman Announced *[TASS]* ... 11

North Korea

Paper Says South Not 'Sincere' About Agreement *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 11
No Tae-u's 'Security-Oriented Rule' Criticized *[KCNA]* ... 14
'Abuse' of Election System in South Berated *[KCNA]* ... 15
Japanese Effort To Pass Troops Bill Criticized *[KCNA]* ... 15
ROK Stance on 'Comfort Girls' Issue Berated *[KCNA]* ... 15
Foreign Trade Minister Meets Egypt's Sidqi *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 16
Economic Delegation Meets Cambodia's Sihanouk *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 16
Article Stresses Ideological Building of Party *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 16

South Korea

- Libya Reportedly Shielding Assets in Local Banks *[TONG-A ILBO 22 Mar]* 19
- New Accord Said To Show Russia 'Favors' South *[YONHAP]* 19
- Inter-Korean Exchange Subcommittee Delegates Named *[YONHAP]* 19
- Defense Ministry Seeking To Upgrade Marines *[YONHAP]* 19
- Junior Officer Alleges Soldiers' Votes Coerced *[YONHAP]* 20
- NSP Employees Arrested for Illegal Campaigning *[YONHAP]* 20
  - NSP Official Apologizes *[YONHAP]* 20
  - Intelligence Organizations Criticized *[HANGYORE SINMUN 23 Mar]* 20
- Kim Tae-chung Support in Cholla Region Examined *[THE KOREA HERALD 21 Mar]* 21
- Chong Chu-yong Accuses Daewoo Head of Collusion *[THE KOREA HERALD 22 Mar]* 22
  - Predicts UNP To Win 120 Seats *[THE KOREA TIMES 22 Mar]* 22
- CEMC Reviewing 'Illegal' UNP Advertisement *[YONHAP]* 22
- Poll Shows Preference for More Opposition Seats *[CHOSON ILBO 22 Mar]* 23
- Survey Examines Positions of Party Candidates *[HANGYORE SINMUN 21 Mar]* 24

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

- SLORC Appoints Than Shwe as Defense Minister *[Rangoon Radio]* 26
  - Appoints Religious Affairs Minister *[Rangoon Radio]* 26
  - Reorganizes Home, Religious Ministries *[Rangoon Radio]* 26
  - Abolishes Nine More Parties *[Rangoon Radio]* 26

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

- Daily Interviews SRV Premier on Bilateral Ties *[THE BORNEO BULLETIN 2 Mar]* 27
- Diplomatic Ties Established With Guinea *[THE BORNEO BULLETIN 2 Mar]* 27

Malaysia

- Cambodian Deputy Premier Pays Official Visit *[BERNAMA]* 28
  - Visit Hailed *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 28

Cambodia

- Hun Sen Leaves for 13-Day Visit to U.S., Japan *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 29
  - Urges Dispatch of Japanese Forces *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 29
- Hun Sen Meets UNTAC Chief Akashi 18 Mar *[SPK]* 30
- Sihanouk Meets, Greets Various Foreign Officials 30
  - Briefed by UNHCR Official *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 30
  - Meets With WHO Representatives *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 30
  - Receives Japanese Deputy Minister *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 30
  - Receives DPRK Economic Delegation *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 30
- Son Sann, Ieng Muli Propose Measures, Meet Akashi *[Radio VOK]* 31
- Chea Sim: CPP Carries On Sihanouk's Policy *[SPK]* 31
- Son Sen Addresses SNC Session 16 Mar *[Radio VGNUFC]* 31
- Foreign Ministry Spokesman Denies AFP Report *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 33
- National Security Ministry Denies Foreign Reports *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 33
- Government Asks UN To Send Troops to Border *[Bangkok THE NATION 21 Mar]* 34
- Article Views Khmer Rouge Stalling Peace Process *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 34

Indonesia

- Military: 'No Intention' To Close Off E. Timor *[AFP]* 34
- Murdani: E. Timor Tragedy Not Caused by Army *[THE JAKARTA POST 11 Mar]* 35
- Australia's Stand on E. Timor Applauded *[Jakarta Radio]* 35

Japanese Troop Deployments Concern Minister *[KYODO]* 36
PRC Minister Welcomes Private Sector Ventures *[Jakarta Radio]* 36

Laos

Reportage on LPRP 37th Anniversary Celebration 36
    PASASON Editorial Pays Tribute *[Vientiane Radio]* 36
    Armed Forces Celebrate Event *[Vientiane Radio]* 37
    Various Activities Mark Anniversary *[Vientiane Radio]* 38
    Seminar on Marxism-Leninism Held *[Vientiane Radio]* 39
Meeting Held With Malaysian Industry Delegation *[KPL]* 39
    Bilateral Ties Discussed *[Vientiane Radio]* 39

Philippines

Navy Arrests Chinese Fishermen in Spratlys *[Manila Radio]* 40
Manila To Counter 'Unfair' PRC Trade Practices *[BUSINESS WORLD 23 Mar]* 40
Japan Gives Assurances of Continued Aid *[MANILA BULLETIN 21 Mar]* 41
Government Trims Foreign Loans to $600 Million *[MALAYA 23 Mar]* 41

Thailand

Official General Election Results Announced *[Bangkok Radio]* 42
Polls Indicate Samakkhi Tham Probable Winner *[BANGKOK POST 21 Mar]* 42
Anan Addresses Meeting of Legislative Assembly *[Bangkok Radio]* 43
Royal Appointment of Senators *[Bangkok Radio]* 44
    'Elite' Gain in Senate *[BANGKOK POST 23 Mar]* 46
Suchinda Retains Post in Military Reshuffle *[BANGKOK POST 22 Mar]* 47
Prime Minister Urges People To Vote 22 Mar *[Bangkok Radio]* 48
Anan Repeats Refusal To Continue as PM *[THE NATION 21 Mar]* 49
Political Leaders Call for Compromise on PM *[THE NATION 21 Mar]* 49
Pro-Military Parties Huddle To Form Coalition *[THE NATION 23 Mar]* 50
NPKC Chief Supports Chawalit for Premier *[THE NATION 23 Mar]* 52
Bank Reports Large Cash Transfer Before Election *[THE NATION 21 Mar]* 52

Vietnam

U.S. Airmen Remains Found in Highland Province *[VNA]* 53
National Assembly Session Set for 23 Mar-11 Apr *[Hanoi Radio]* 53
    Communique Issued *[Hanoi Radio]* 53
Foreign Minister in India for Trade Talks *[Hanoi International]* 53
Li Peng Hails Normalization of PRC-SRV Ties *[Hanoi Radio]* 53
Vo Van Kiet Receives Belarus Delegation *[VNA]* 54
    Belarus Minister Discusses Ties *[VNA]* 54
    Delegation Ends Visit *[VNA]* 54
Diplomatic Ties With Lithuania Established *[VNA]* 55
Envoy Meets Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister *[VNA]* 55
Commentary Looks at Trade With Singapore *[Hanoi International]* 55
Army Journal Criticizes Capitalism *[TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Feb]* 55

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Evans Notes E. Timor Annexation 'Irreversible' *[AFP]* 58
Keating Signals Lifting of Sanctions on RSA *[AFP]* 58
    Congratulates RSA on Referendum *[Melbourne International]* 58

Fiji

Rabuka Reportedly Blames Last Coup on Premier *[AFP]* 58
  Rabuka Denies Statement *[Melbourne International]* 59

New Zealand

Foreign Minister Blames Burma for Refugee Crisis *[AFP]* 59
Statistics Department Reports Trade Deficit *[AFP]* 59

Papua New Guinea

Sabumei Urges Solomons To Deter BRA Raids *[Melbourne International]* 60

Japan

Residents' Claim to U.S. Complex Land Rejected

OW2303044792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0335 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Yokosuka, Kanagawa Pref., March 23 KYODO—The Yokohama District Court's Yokosuka branch on Monday rejected a claim by eight residents of Zushi, Kanagawa Prefecture, to ownership of part of land on which a U.S. military housing complex is under construction.

The court agreed with the Japanese Government's argument that the tract of some 5,800 square meters of land legally belongs to the state despite an alleged failure to register the land as state property.

The U.S. military housing complex is under construction on a site that was used by the Japanese military as an ammunition depot during World War II and subsequently taken over by the U.S. occupation forces after the war.

Some of the land, however, remained registered as private property on the land register.

The state maintained that the Imperial Japanese Navy purchased the land from local residents but apparently failed to register all of the land.

Okinawa To Review Land-Lease Contract System

OW2303115092 Naha NHK Television in Japanese 0300 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] The Okinawa Prefectural Government disclosed today its views concerning the prefecture-owned land which is being used by U.S. Forces and the Self-Defense Forces. In a written reply to inquiries by the prefectural assembly members of the Liberal Democratic Party and the Shinsei Club, the government said that it would, in the first place, terminate the present land-lease contracts with the central government and take a new measure for fiscal 1992. The members asked the government on 18 March to make clear whether it would incorporate land-lease revenues into the general account of the draft fiscal 1992 budget.

In the written reply, the Okinawa government said that because 10 years had already passed since the conclusion of the land-lease contracts, and because the demands of Okinawan residents to remove the military bases had become stronger, it was time to review the contract system. Concerning contracts for fiscal 1992 with the central government, the Okinawa government intends to raise an objection to them based on the Civil Code, it said. The government said it would terminate the present contracts, and would take an appropriate measure to handle budgets for fiscal 1992 upon closing of consultations with the central government on the matter.

Russia's Kozyrev Continues Visit Activities

Urges DPRK Nuclear Inspection

OW2103051292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0453 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev suggested Saturday that Russia and Japan could cooperate in pressing North Korea to accept inspections of its controversial nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and "comply 100 percent with its conditions."

Foreign Ministry officials said Kozyrev, who arrived in Japan on Thursday, made the remarks in his third and last session of regular consultations with Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe.

Kozyrev also reconfirmed that Russia is not opposed to the U.S.- Japan mutual security arrangements and indicated that Russia supports Japan's quest for observer status in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Watanabe was quoted as noting that while North Korea has denied it is aiming to develop a nuclear weapons capability, there are reports to the contrary.

He said it is vital that Pyongyang accept IAEA inspections of its facilities so the validity of such reports can be verified.

Kozyrev, who visited South Korea just prior to coming to Japan, said Pyongyang should quickly accept IAEA inspections as it is obliged to do as a party to the nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

The officials said he suggested there is room for Russia and Japan to cooperate in such forums as the United Nations and in the IAEA to ensure that North Korea accepts inspections and "complies 100 percent with IAEA conditions."

During his visit to Seoul, Kozyrev reportedly confirmed that Moscow has stopped providing financial and technical assistance to North Korea for the building of nuclear plants.

Officials said he told Watanabe that the now-defunct Soviet Union had inspected a two-megawatt nuclear research reactor that was supplied to North Korea in 1963.

On defense, Watanabe said the country's security arrangements with the United States are not only beneficial to Japan, but they serve to allay security anxieties felt by Asian countries.

The officials said Watanabe expressed concern over the transfer of former Soviet military weapons and equipment, such as tanks, from Europe over the Ural Mountains to the Russian Far East. Watanabe said the mere presence of the weapons makes the Japanese people feel threatened.

They said Watanabe called for Russia and other former Soviet republics to take care to ensure that a brain drain of sensitive scientific and technical expertise does not occur, which could expedite efforts by certain countries to produce weapons of mass destruction.

He pledged that Japan would extend cooperation in an international context for facilitating the conversion of former Soviet military industries to civilian use.

Suggests Difficulty With '56 Pact

OW2103062592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0613 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev indicated difficulty in fulfilling the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration in which the former Soviet Union agreed to return two disputed islands off Hokkaido to Japan.

Kozyrev, who arrived in Japan on Thursday, told reporters at the Russian Embassy in Tokyo after talks with his Japanese counterpart Michio Watanabe that respecting the declaration and fulfilling it are two different things.

Russia will succeed the declaration as an "inheritance" of the former Soviet Union, he said, and will respect it as an international obligation.

But the declaration, in which the former Soviet Union pledged to return Shikotan and the Habomai group of islets to Japan but not the two larger islands after concluding a peace treaty, was signed without discussing it with people, he said.

The dispute over the four islands, referred to in Japan as the "northern territories," have prevented the signing of a peace treaty between the two nations.

The islands—Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomai islets—were seized by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II.

The former Soviet Union retreated from the 1956 promise after Japan and the United States revised their mutual security treaty in 1960.

Kozyrev said issues involving the return to Japan of the islands, including Shikotan and the Habomai islets, will be discussed in future bilateral negotiations.

He also suggested that it is undecided as to holding a referendum on returning the islands.

A draft of Russia's new constitution stipulates that referendums will be held when ceding the nation's territories.

The Russian foreign minister is scheduled to leave Japan on Sunday.

Urges Islands Dispute Compromise

OW2103111192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1037 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev called on Japan and Russia on Saturday to seek a compromise settlement of their longstanding territorial dispute, political sources said. Kozyrev, the first Russian foreign minister to visit Japan since the collapse of the Soviet Union last year, made the appeal in a meeting with Former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, the sources said.

"It is important for both sides to compromise in order to find a common ground," Kozyrev was quoted as telling Nakasone. The Russian foreign minister also asked Nakasone to work on the Japanese Government to increase economic cooperation with Russia to help it overcome its difficult economic situation, they said.

Kozyrev supported Nakasone's call for a settlement of the territorial dispute to pave the way for conclusion of a peace treaty between the two countries by the end of the century, the sources said. The dispute involves four islands off Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido that the former Soviet Union captured after the end of World War II.

Kozyrev, in a separate meeting with former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, sought advice on Russia's transition to a market economy, the sources said. They said Kozyrev invited Takeshita to visit Moscow. Kozyrev also met separately with other leaders of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, including former Party Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa, and Taro Nakayama and Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, both former foreign ministers.

Kozyrev, in his meeting with Ozawa, said the territorial issue must be solved in line with the principles of law and justice, the sources said. He made the remark in response to Ozawa's call for Russia to make a decision on the issue, they said.

Mitsuzuka told Kozyrev that cooperation between the two countries should be based on mutual trust and that Japan should promote economic cooperation with Russia without sticking to its policy of linking politics and economies, the sources said. Kozyrev replied that Mitsuzuka's proposal was key to the settlement of issue and that Russia would do its utmost to resolve pending bilateral problems.

Concludes Visit; Departs 22 Mar

OW2203013892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0131 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 22 KYODO—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev wrapped up his four-day visit to Japan Sunday morning and headed home via Vladivostok.

Kozyrev held three rounds of talks with Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe on Friday and Saturday.

The talks were the first regular meetings between the Japanese and Russian foreign ministers after last December's collapse of the former Soviet Union.

In the meetings, Kozyrev and Watanabe agreed that when Russian President Boris Yeltsin visits Japan in September, the two nations should issue a joint declaration resolving to make progress on the long-disputed territorial issue involving four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido.

The dispute involves the islands of Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan, and the Habomai group of islets, which were seized by Soviet troops after the end of World War II.

During his stay, Kozyrev also met with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa as well as former Prime Ministers Yasuhiro Nakasone and Noboru Takeshita.

Miyazawa Hopes for Yeltsin Visit 'Breakthrough'

OW2203123492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1225 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Text] Ota, Gunma Pref., March 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Sunday he hopes Russian President Boris Yeltsin's planned visit to Japan in September will provide a breakthrough in a territorial dispute that has hampered relations for decades.

The two countries "have been negotiating by setting Russian President Yeltsin's visit to Japan as a target," Miyazawa said at a press conference while stumping for a March 29 House of Representatives by-election in Gunma Prefecture.

"It is high time for both countries to step up their drive to resolve the issue," he said.

Both countries claim the Russian-held islands of Kunashiri, Etorofu, and Shikotan, and the Habomai group of islets off Hokkaido, which the Soviet Red Army seized at the close of World War II.

Japan, which calls the islands its "northern territories," maintains that it will not conclude a peace treaty with Russia or provide its strapped economy with full-fledged economic aid unless Moscow returns the islands.

But the prime minister said Japan will make every effort to extend humanitarian aid to Russia within the framework of its policy of linking politics to economics.

Miyazawa said Japan must consider what it can do to enable Yeltsin's government to consolidate law and justice, which Russia claims are the grounds on which to resolve the bilateral dispute.

Miyazawa suggested Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev would visit Japan again before Yeltsin visits Japan. Kozyrev left Japan earlier Sunday after a four-day visit.

Kozyrev, the first Russian foreign minister to visit Japan since the demise of the Soviet Union, said his country will inherit the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration that promised to return two of the four islands to Japan when a peace treaty is concluded.

On the accelerating slowdown in the Japanese economy, Miyazawa reiterated his hope for a further cut in the official discount rate.

If the benchmark rate the Bank of Japan charges on loans to commercial banks is cut, as is widely predicted, companies will be prompted to invest money in plants and equipment, he said.

Watanabe Warns Against Optimism in Dispute

OW2103122092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1205 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe cautioned Saturday against optimism about settlement of a territorial dispute between Japan and Russia.

"It is impossible for something that has made little progress over 30 years in the past will be solved in six months or a year," he told reporters. Watanabe expressed hope the groundwork will be laid for a solution to the problem during a visit to Japan by Russian President Boris Yeltsin in September.

Watanabe held the third and last session of regular consultations with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who arrived in Tokyo on Thursday.

The Japanese foreign minister said it would be difficult for Japan to start major economic assistance to Russia until a peace treaty is signed between the two countries. The dispute over four islands off Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido, seized by the former Soviet Union after the end of World War II, have kept the two countries from concluding a peace pact.

Kozyrev reportedly called on Japan to abandon its policy of linking politics and economics. Watanabe said Japan would not insist on standing policy and is ready to expand its aid to Russia for humanitarian purposes.

Russian Nuclear Experts Arrive for Training

OW2303124592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1235 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 23 KYODO—The Agency of Natural Resources and Energy on Monday accepted four Russian experts on nuclear energy to give them the opportunity to learn Japanese safety policies regarding nuclear power generation, agency officials said.

The four trainees were received by the agency's affiliated Nuclear Power Engineering Test Center for a weeklong stay, said the officials. The agency is affiliated with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

Their training is in line with a proposal MITI made late last year to receive three to five trainees from the former

Soviet republics, whose nuclear capacity is drawing global attention after the demise of the Soviet Union.

The four experts will attend lectures about how the Japanese Government and the private sector have maintained safety at nuclear plants.

They are also scheduled to inspect nuclear-related facilities near Tokyo, including Tokyo Electric Power Co's nuclear plant in Fukushima Prefecture, north of Tokyo.

Cambodia's Sihanouk Urges Troops for UNTAC

OW2103024792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0121 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 21 KYODO—Prince Norodom Sihanouk asked Japan Friday to dispatch Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to join U.N. peacekeeping forces in Cambodia.

Sihanouk, chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council (SNC), made the request in a meeting with Japanese parliametary Vice Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa.

"I ask the Japanese Government to revise laws to enable SDF personnel to be sent to Cambodia to be engaged in U.N. peacekeeping activities since Japan is a big power in Asia," Kakizawa quoted Sihanouk as telling him.

Kakizawa told Japanese reporters that he understood the remark to mean Sihanouk's request for Japanese participation in peacekeeping operations with troops under the command of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

The United Nations plans to deploy 15,900 UNTAC troops at strategic points across Cambodia by May 20 in order to disarm the four factions which fought in Cambodia's 13-year civil war.

Kakizawa also spoke of a plan to set up a Japan-Cambodia committee to search for 10 Japanese journalists and six other Japanese who have been listed as missing during the 15-year Vietnam War that ended in 1975.

Kakizawa said he and Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong agreed to set up the committee when they held a meeting in Phnom Penh.

Sihanouk was quoted as saying that he will make every effort to enlist the help of all of the four Cambodia's factions in a search for the missing Japanese.

Hun Sen Urges SDF Participation in Cambodia

OW2103115492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1138 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen called on Japan on Saturday to send Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to his country to join U.N. peacekeeping forces deployed there, Japanese officials said. Hun Sen, who arrived here earlier in the day on his way to the United States, made the request in a meeting with former Foreign Minister Hiroshi Mitsuzuka.

Hun Sen called for enactment of a bill pending in the Diet which would allow overseas dispatch of SDF personnel to assist U.N. peacekeeping operations and urged Japan to actively cooperate with the U.N. mission in his country. The SDF's proposed participation in the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), which Sunday began monitoring compliance with a truce signed by Cambodia's four rival factions, is very important for peaceful settlement and stability in Cambodia, Hun Sen was quoted as saying.

The leader of the Phnom Penh government also said an early deployment of U.N. peacekeeping forces is necessary to prevent the resurrection of the Khmer Rouge faction, blamed for killing a million Cambodians while in power in the latter part of the 1970s.

"Participation by Japan as a fellow country of Asia in U.N. peacekeeping forces is imperative," Hun Sen said.

Mitsuzuka said there are difficulties in Japanese participation because of resistance from opposition parties.

Thanks Tokyo for Contributions

OW2103123192 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 21 Mar 92

[From the evening newscast program]

[Text] Visiting Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Phnon Penh government, who is also a member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, met this afternoon with Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, former chairman of the Policy Research Council of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP]. In the meeting, Mr. Hun Sen asked Japan to send its Self-Defense Forces [SDF] to participate in the PKF—Peacekeeping Forces of the United Nations—and provide cooperation in settling the Cambodian issue in a peaceful manner. Mr. Hun Sen is currently visiting Japan on his way to the United States. Today's meeting lasted about 30 minutes at a Tokyo hotel.

During the meeting, Mr. Hun Sen thanked Japan for its financial contributions to the UNTAC—the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia. Touching on the issue of the SDF's participation in the PKF, Mr. Hun Send said he hopes that the peacekeeping operations bill currently being deliberated in the Japanese Diet would be enacted at an early date so that the Japanese SDF could take part in the peacekeeping forces and cooperate in resolving the Cambodian issue in a peaceful manner. In this way, he asked for the SDF's participation in the peacekeeping forces.

Meanwhile, Mr. Mitsuzuka said that the Japanese Government and LDP were doing their best to obtain the bill's passage and that even if the legislation fails to become law, Japan would contribute in one way or another—for example, by sending private citizens to Cambodia. Therefore, he indicated that Japan would positively cooperate with Cambodia in realizing peace in the region.

Requests Administrators, Police

OW2203130792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1257 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 22 KYODO—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen reiterated his call Sunday for Japan to send Self-Defense Forces (SDF) troops to Cambodia to join United Nations peacekeeping forces, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The premier of the Phnom Penh government also urged Japan to send policemen and administrators to his war-torn country, the officials said.

Noting reported attacks by the Khmer Rouge after a national ceasefire, Hun Sen told Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe in a meeting at a Tokyo hotel that 20 countries have sent troops to Cambodia to join the UN activities, which began March 15, they said.

The UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) plans to deploy 15,900 troops at strategic points throughout Cambodia by May 20 and start disarming the country's four warring factions June 1.

Hun Sen dismissed as outdated thinking the objections by some Asian countries to Japanese military participation in the UN peacekeeping mission, they said, adding Japan's World War II aggression was a thing of the past.

Watanabe replied that Tokyo is making every effort to pass a bill to allow SDF personnel to be sent overseas to assist UN peacekeeping operations, the officials said.

The Japanese foreign minister promised to study Hun Sen's request for a dispatch of Japanese economic experts to the country as government advisers, they said.

The Cambodian premier thanked Japan for its funds to UNTAC and urged Tokyo to continue funding the UN body, the officials said.

Hun sen arrived in Japan on Saturday for a three-day unofficial visit on his way to the United States.

PKO Bill Adoption 'Precondition'

OW2303110192 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Phnom Penh administration of Cambodia, who is visiting Japan, held talks with Prime Minister Miyazawa this morning. In the meeting, he reiterated the strong request that Japan, which has contributed to attaining peace in Cambodia, send the Self Defense Forces [SDF] to the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC].

During the meeting, Prime Minister Miyazawa said that the Peacekeeping Operations [PKO] Cooperation Bill is being deliberated at the current Diet session and that he will exert his best efforts in getting the bill passed.

In this connection, Prime Minister Hun Sen replied that Japan should earnestly consider the SDF dispatch, rather than limiting itself to financial contributions. He added that although it is an unfortunate fact that the memory of World War II still lingers, a long time has elapsed since the end of the war. He continued to say that Japan should carry out its responsibilities for the cause of world peace, and that there should be no problems if Japan makes its military contributions under the UN flag. Thus, he again strongly requested that Japan, which has so far been contributing to peace efforts in Cambodia, by all means realize the dispatch of SDF forces to the UNTAC.

Moreover, in his previous talks with Cabinet Chief Secretary Kato, while repeatedly calling for Japan's personnel contributions, such as dispatching the SDF to UNTAC, Prime Minister Hun Sen touched on Cambodia's application for membership to ASEAN. He said that Cambodia will start operations aimed at participation in ASEAN as soon as the elections for establishing a new political regime have been held. Thus, he disclosed Cambodia's intention of making preparations for applying for ASEAN membership upon the inauguration of the new administration, with the election scheduled for next year.

In this connection, Cabinet Chief Secretary Kato stated the following in this morning's press conference:

[Begin Kato recording] We have also received a strong request from Mr. Hun Sen for dispatching the SDF. The Cambodian Government itself hopes for Japan's SDF dispatch within the framework of the PKO under the UN. Prime Minister Hun Sen made such a statement probably because some developments were not predicted last year. [end recording]

Speaking in this fashion, he added that there have also been requests for sending civil officers and police officers to supervise the election, but the Japanese Government is attaching importance to adopting the PKO bill, which calls for continued deliberation in the upper house, and we hope to promote discussions in this regard. Thus, he indicated the idea that Japan's full-fledged cooperation in the PKO should, at best, be based on the precondition of adopting the PKO bill.

Miyazawa on Support for SDF Peacekeeping Role

OW2203024092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0219 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Sunday reiterated his resolve to seek early enactment of a bill that would allow Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to be sent abroad for United Nations peacekeeping operations.

Addressing a graduation ceremony at the National Defense Academy in Yokosuka, south of Tokyo, Miyazawa said it is significant for the SDF to demonstrate its ability in accordance with international expectations.

The bill is now pending before the opposition-dominated House of Councillors, following its passage by the House of Representatives in December.

The opposition parties, including the largest opposition Social Democratic Party, have vowed to scrap the bill, saying it runs counter to Japan's Constitution which bans the country from using or threatening to use military force as a means of settling international disputes.

On Japan's defense policy, Miyazawa stressed the importance of maintaining security arrangements between Japan and the U.S. as well as efficient and moderate defense capabilities in Japan.

Defense Agency Chief Sohei Miyashita told academy graduates that to keep up with the rapidly changing international system, the government has started to review the nation's 1991-95 mid-term defense buildup program.

Tells Hun Sen of Determination

OW2303041792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0347 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 23 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen on Monday that he is determined to win parliamentary approval of a bill enabling Japanese troops to participate in UN peacekeeping operations in Cambodia, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Miyazawa made the remark in response to Hun Sen's request that Japan dispatch Self-Defense Force (SDF) troops, police, and administrators to help the United Nations monitor elections slated for next year, in addition to making financial contributions, the official said.

"We are now in the midst of debate on the UN peacekeeping bill, and I am doing my utmost to see that it is passed," Miyazawa was quoted as telling Hun Sen.

Miyazawa also said Japan would make as large a financial contribution as possible to help the United Nations oversee the transition to peace.

Japan has so far pledged some 60 million dollars to help pay start-up costs for the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) and to help repatriate and resettle refugees.

Japan is Hun Sen's first stop on a three-nation trip to drum up support for UNTAC, which is planning to deploy 15,900 troops to disarm the country's four warring factions.

The official said that in the 25-minute meeting Miyazawa sought Hun Sen's views on a concern expressed by some Japanese that SDF troops would not be welcome in southeast Asia due to lingering memories of Japan's wartime aggression a half century ago.

"It is true that there are unhappy memories of the past. But that is the past," Hun Sen was quoted as saying.

"Japan should fulfill its duties to world peace," he said.

Hun Sen said that the dispatch of SDF troops would not pose a problem as long as it occurs under the auspices of the UN.

Hun Sen will meet with opposition leaders and then head for the U.S. later Monday, winding up his three-day unofficial visit.

Bilateral Talks With ROK Slated for 26 Mar

OW2103051192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0455 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—Japan and South Korea will hold regular high-level political consultations next Thursday in Tokyo, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

Officials said the Japanese delegation to the talks will be headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Kunihiko Saito, while his South Korean counterpart will be Chang Man Soon, assistant minister for political affairs in South Korean Foreign Ministry.

They said the agenda for the meeting will encompass international affairs, the situation on the Korean peninsula, and bilateral relations.

The two sides are expected to discuss the prospects for North Korean acceptance of international inspections of its controversial nuclear facilities.

They may also touch on the sensitive issue of demands from some South Koreans for Japanese compensation to wartime "comfort women" who were forced to provide sex for Japanese soldiers during World War II.

Peru's Fujimori Thanks Kumamoto for Contribution

OW2103045292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0326 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Kumamoto, March 21 KYODO—Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori, capping his first state visit to Japan, told the Kumamoto Prefectural Assembly on Saturday that Kumamoto has always been part of his life.

"My mother tells me the first word I spoke was of Kumamoto dialect, and I feel the warmth of Kumamoto dialect-speaking people here," he said in his farewell address to the assembly before leaving for home.

Fujimori's parents emigrated to Peru from the southern Japanese prefecture.

He thanked Kumamoto citizens for their 1.7 million dollar contribution to Peru, and proposed a partnership between Kumamoto and one of Peru's provinces.

Fujimori flew to the city of Kumamoto on Friday for a "homecoming" visit to his ancestral prefecture.

'Sleeping' Savings Planned for International Aid

OW2303101792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0951 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 23 KYODO—The government hopes to use funds from "sleeping" postal savings for Japan's international aid, Posts and Telecommunications Minister Hideo Watanabe told the Diet Monday.

Holders of ordinary savings accounts that have seen no new deposits or withdrawals for more than 10 years lose their rights to their savings.

Funds in fixed-amount savings accounts, if the holders fail to withdraw their savings after 10 years, are transferred to ordinary savings accounts. The latter become sleeping savings 10 years later.

Funds from dormant postal savings are currently transferred to miscellaneous income of the government's postal savings business.

Watanabe told the House of Councillors Budget Committee that his ministry will try to decide on the use of sleeping savings in fiscal 1992, which starts on April 1.

A cumulative total of sleeping postal savings came to 63.9 billion yen between 1951 and 1990. In fiscal 1992 alone, such savings will total 4.8 billion yen, according to a ministry estimate.

Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata, appearing before the same committee, suggested his ministry might seek a similar measure regarding sleeping deposits with commercial banks.

Businessman's Kidnapping in Panama Reported

OW2203042792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0410 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 22 KYODO—A 45-year-old Japanese businessman stationed in Panama has been missing for more than a week and is feared kidnapped, according to a report reaching the Foreign Ministry on Sunday.

Takashi Ota, an employee of citizen Latinamerica Corp., was reportedly last seen at a restaurant in Panama City on the night of March 14.

The company, which is affiliated with Citizen Watch Co., informed the Japanese Embassy about Ota's disappearance on March 16, according to the report.

Local investigators believe that Ota was abducted and have started investigating the case, the report said.

According to the Foreign Ministry, there have been five robbery cases this year involving Japanese nationals in Panama.

A number of abduction and murder cases ivolving Japanese nationals have also been reported in Latin American countries in recent months, including the March 3 fatal stabbing of a Japanese aid worker in the Dominican Republic.

Tokyo To Remove Sake Classification System

OW2103083892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0756 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—Quality classifications for Japanese sake will be removed from April 1 in line with a revision of the long-standing tax system for liquor.

The system, which calls for varied tax rates according to quality rankings, has been the target of foreign criticism as a barrier impeding Japanese imports of liquor.

When the rankings are removed, the tax on first class sake will decrease 90 yen per 1.8 liters, while the levy on second class will rise 30 yen.

Finn-Turned-Japanese Wins Municipal Election

OW2203132292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1302 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Text] Yokohama, March 22 KYODO—A Finnish man who became a naturalized Japanese citizen won a municipal assembly election Sunday in Kanagawa Prefecture.

Marutei Tsurunen [in order to obtain Japanese citizenship, it is necessary to adopt a Japanese name], 51, won the election to the 22-member Yugawara municipal assembly.

He became the first naturalized citizen to be elected as assembly member, the Home Affairs Ministry said.

Tsurunen, whose Finnish name was Martti Turunen, came to Japan in 1969 and was naturalized in 1974. He teaches English in Yugawara, where he has lived since 1981.

Komeito Announces Platform for Jul Elections

OW2103110192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1008 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—The second-largest opposition party, Komeito, made a campaign pledge Saturday to make the country a great place to live as it gears up for the House of Councillors election in July. The party's campaign promises apparently are meant to overcome the public perception that it tried to railroad a bill through the House of Representatives last November to allow Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel overseas to join U.N.-sponsored peacekeeping operations, observers said.

The campaign platform released Saturday, titled "For a Comfortable and Affluent Japan," proposes such things as a "tax reduction for raising children" with deductions for necessary expenses of childrearing, and establishing a rental assistance program for newlyweds. It also calls for realizing voting rights for 18-year-olds, reducing taxes for part-time workers and regulating malicious business methods, such as those involving golf club memberships.

Although the platform says passage of the U.N. Peacekeeping Operations Bill is a "pressing need," Komeito proposes a freeze in Japan's participation in peacekeeping forces. If the bill becomes a law, it would permit Japan to send armed ground forces overseas for the first time since World War II.

Komeito also proposed suspending the current five-year 22.7 trillion yen Mid-Term Defense Plan and sharply reducing the number of SDF personnel. The party, for the first time ever, also called for reforming the nation's electoral system and introducing a combination of single-seat constituencies and proportional representation in the lower house.

Leaders Denounce Attempt on Kanemaru's Life

OW2103023092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0135 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—Japanese leaders denounced an attempt on the life of senior politician Shin Kanemaru, who barely escaped an assassin's bullets Friday while speaking at a municipal hall in Ashikaga, Thigi Prefecture.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Kochi Kato, who visited Kanemaru upon his return to Tokyo, said the assassination attempt by a right-wing extremist produced "the problem of a new approach to protect key officials."

"Violence is the enemy of democracy, and we have to fight against it at all costs," Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe told reporters after calling on Kanemaru, 77, who is vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

LDP Secretary General Tamisuke Watanuki said the governing party will consult with police about precautionary measures.

Police said Hiroshi Watanabe, 24, fired three shots at Kanemaru on Friday, and the second shot almost hit the politician.

"I thought wind or an insect was passing by me," Kanemaru was quoted as telling aides.

Police are questioning Watanabe, who identified himself as a member of the rightist group "Yukoku-seiwa-kai." Metropolitan police department officials said the group has seven to eight members. Group members rammed a small truck into the headquarters building of a bank in January 1988, and drove a car into LDP headquarters in August of the same year.

Watanabe used a Brazilian-made .38-caliber revolver in his attempt on Kanemaru's life. Police officials were questioning the suspect about his motive and how he got the pistol.

Kanemaru has been the target of harassment from rightist groups since his controversial trip to North Korea in 1990 as an LDP representative.

Japanese Foreign Ministry officials and the U.S. Government have criticized Kanemaru for an overture to Pyongyang, with which Tokyo and Washington have no diplomatic relations.

A petrol bomb was hurled at Kanemaru's Tokyo home last November, and his aides said the outspoken politician has received threatening calls and hate mail.

Miyazawa Apologizes for Security

OW2103044792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0429 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Excerpt] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Saturday that he apologized to senior politician Shin Kanemaru for inadequate security at a municipal hall in Tochigi Prefecture where Kanemaru narrowly escaped an assassin's bullets Friday.

Miyazawa made the statement to reporters in the Diet.

Aides said the premier received reports on the assassination attempt from Masajuro Shiokawa, home affairs minister and chairman of the National Public Safety Commission, and Ryoichi Suzuki, head of the National Police Agency.

Miyazawa instructed the two men to take "very tough" security measures to prevent a repeat of such an incident, the aides said.

His chief spokesman Kochi Kato said after visiting Kanemaru upon his return to Tokyo that the assassination attempt by a right-wing extremist produces a problem of finding "a new approach to protect key officials."

Police arrested Hiroshi Watanabe, 24, for firing three close-range shots at Kanemaru, vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), who had been delivering a speech in Ashikaga, Tochigi Prefecture.

Police investigators said the second shot nearly struck the 77-year-old politician.

Watanabe reportedly told police he shadowed Kanemaru and tried to shoot him after hearing his right-wing friends at a rally in Tokyo last November say that "Kanemaru is a traitor."

The Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department said Watanabe was referring to a November 28 rally of about 150 rightists who denounced Kanemaru for his role in opening dialogue with communist North Korea.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe told reporters, "violence is the enemy of democracy and we have to fight against it at all costs." [passage omitted]

BOJ Head Mieno Foresees Economic Recovery

OW2103045392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0443 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—The governor of the Bank of Japan (BOJ), Yasushi Mieno, indicated Saturday that the nation's economic recovery will occur in or after the second half of 1992.

Appearing before the House of Councillors Budget Committee meeting, he said the key to an economic recovery is the timing for the completion of inventory adjustments, and that "full-fledged inventory adjustments have just begun and will continue into the second half of 1992."

Asked about the government's official projection of an inflation-adjusted economic growth rate of 3.5 percent for fiscal 1992, Mieno said he "does not have any material to forecast what percentage it would be".

Regarding the BOJ's stance on monetary policy, Mieno said the central bank was still monitoring the effect of previous cuts in the official discount rate, but added, "excessive adjustments of the economy would spoil everything."

Observers took his comment to mean that the time is approaching for the central bank to decide to carry out another cut in the discount rate. The key rate now stands at 4.5 percent per annum.

Meanwhile at the same meeting, Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata expressed skepticism about setting an excessively high target for early implementation of public works projects in the first half of fiscal 1992.

"It is doubtful whether the construction industry can attain such a target at a time when the labor shortage is acute," he said.

He also said he is not thinking of an income tax cut in the immediate future to spur personal consumption.

Hata made the remarks in response to a question by a member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, who asked about a package of measures to buoy the economy slated to be announced by the government next week.

Seeks Shift to Sustained Growth

OW2303064792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0554 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 23 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno said Monday the BOJ intends to shift the economy from the current slowdown into sustained growth without inflation.

Mieno told the House of Councillors Budget Committee that the economy is now in a period of "difficult adjustments."

He said the adjustments are needed, in part, to solve problems resulting from the collapse of the "bubble economy" with its soaring stock and real estate prices.

Mieno's comments came amid speculation that the BOJ may cut the official discount rate this week to give the Japanese economy a shot in the arm.

The central bank last cut the discount rate, which it charges on loans to commercial banks, to 4.5 percent on December 30, but analysts said the reduction has had little effect in stimulating the economy.

Mieno, answering questions from an opposition lawmaker, also denied speculation that a possible cut in the key rate is intended to relieve nonbank financial institutions.

Nonbanks, which have depended on real estate deals for much of their business, have been hard hit by the collapse of the bubble economy.

Eisuke Hamamoto, director general at the Finance Ministry's Tax Bureau, told the same committee that there is no reason for optimism about avoiding tax revenue shortfalls resulting from the economic slowdown.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told the same committee that his government is not considering an increase in the current 3 percent consumption tax to cover revenue shortfalls.

Elaborating on a similar comment he made earlier before a House of Representatives Budget Committee, Miyazawa said the government will seek proper economic management to prevent revenue shortfalls.

Miyazawa Optimistic Regarding Economic Forecast

OW2103083692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0532 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Saturday Japan could achieve the government's real economic growth rate target of 3.7 percent in the current fiscal year, which ends March 31.

It hinges largely on economic performance in the January-March quarter whether or not the Japanese economy will attain the growth target, he told reporters in the Diet building.

Miyazawa's remarks came amid growing pessimistic views that Japan's economic growth rate for fiscal 1991 would fall short of the the government's target.

The Economic Planning Agency announced Thursday the nation's gross national product (GNP)—total output of goods and services—contracted 0.046 percent in the October-December quarter from the previous quarter. The figure translated into a negative growth rate of 0.2 percent in annual terms.

Miyazawa said, "The announced figures are broadly within my expectations, and the possibility cannot entirely be ruled out the target will be attained, depending on performance in the January-March quarter."

Money Supply Continues 'Low' Growth Trend

OW2303105792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1030 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 23 KYODO—Japan's broadly defined money supply grew 1.6 percent in February from a year before, setting a record low growth rate for the third straight month, the Bank of Japan said Monday.

The money supply—M2 (cash in circulation and time and demand deposits) plus certificates of deposit—totaled 500.5 trillion yen in February.

Central bank officials attributed the small growth to cooled fund demand, as more corporations cut their capital spending amid the persistent economic slowdown.

The low level of money supply growth suggests that the current phase of economic adjustment in Japan will last for the time being, according to some economists.

As a result, the central bank is expected to come under increased pressure for a cut in the official discount rate, they said.

Steelmakers Decide To Raise Monthly Wages

OW2303001692 Tokyo KYODO in English 2328 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 23 KYODO—Five major steelmakers have decided to grant a monthly wage hike of 10,000 yen or 3.63 percent to their employees this year, down 1,500 yen from last year's wage hike, industry sources said Sunday night.

The sources said the major steelmakers including Nippon Steel Corp. will also pay their employees 1.38 million yen in bonuses this year, the same amount as last year.

The steelmakers will also offer two more paid holidays to day workers and three more days off to shift workers, the sources said.

The steelmakers will officially present the wage hike plans to their unions on Wednesday to set the pace for labor's spring offensive seeking higher wages. The unions are expected to accept the offer, the sources said.

Meanwhile, in the shipbuilding industry, which is enjoying relatively favorable business, management and labor have agreed to raise monthly wages for their employees by 14,000 yen (5.05 percent), the same as last year, industry sources said.

Management and labor in the electric appliance and automobile industries are in last-ditch negotiations over wage increases of 4.6 and 4.8 percent, respectively, industry sources said.

Labor unions in these industries, all belonging to the Japan Council of Metal Workders Unions (IMF-JC), are pacesetters in the annual spring labor offensive.

MITI Plans Environment-Benign Factory Systems

OW2303100392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0942 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Tokyo, March 23 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) has worked out a scheme for developing more environmentally benign factory systems, ministry officials said Monday.

The scheme, devised by the Agency of Industrial Science and Technology, the ministry's affiliate, is aimed at changing the Japanese factory system oriented on production efficiency to one which pays more attention to the growing need for environmental conservation.

The new systems would be pollution-free, energy-saving, and equipped with recycling facilities, the officials said.

The agency says that the new scheme, unlike previous environmental policies which sometimes were inconsistent with economic activities, can simultaneously achieve the aims of economic growth and environmental protection.

Promotion of the scheme will be one of the agency's top-priority large-scale projects to be formulated in fiscal 1993, the officials said.

The "eco factory," (short for "ecology-based factory") system envisages development of high-speed dismantling robots to automatically break down used cars, electrical products, and other industrial wastes into steel, plastics, and other raw materials.

Also envisaged is the development of an industrial machinery system which needs no air-conditioning, a production process which uses clean energy sources, such as hydrogen, and a new type of easily recyclable plastic.

The agency also plans to develop software which harmonizes these individual technologies, the officials said.

Mongolia

Government Hopes To Develop Ties With Europe

OW1103154592 Beijing XINHUA in English 1454 GMT 11 Mar 92

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, March 11 (XINHUA)—Mongolian Premier Dashiyn Byambasuren stressed here today that at present it was more important than ever for his country to develop cooperation with European countries.

The premier made the remark at a news conference when speaking on the result of his European trip which brought him to Germany, France, EC headquarters, Belgium and Russia from February 24 to March 9.

"It is very important to get support from every country in the world at a time when Mongolia is experiencing deep social change and a transition to a market economy," he said.

He said Mongolia had always attached great importance to developing relations with developed countries, especially with West European countries. "This kind of relationship is significant at any time," he said.

He held that his European tour had opened wide prospects for economic cooperation between Mongolia and West European countries.

Three Political Parties Form Election Coalition

LD2203193292 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Three Mongolian parties have decided to unite into a coalition with a view to insuring democratic victory at the forthcoming parliamentary elections in June. According to the reports from Ulaanbaatar, the coalition will comprise the Democratic Party, the Party of National Progress, and the United Party of Mongolia. The latest polls have shown that once the only and powerful Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party now enjoys the support of some 30 percent of the population, whereas 45 percent intend to vote for democratic parties.

MUPPO Election of New Chairwoman Announced

LD2203024692 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1517 GMT 20 Mar 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dugar Sanzhiyev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 20 Mar (TASS)—For the first time in Mongolia a political organization is headed by a woman. At its recent founding congress, the Mongolian United Party of Private Owners (MUPPO) elected Ochirbatyn Zaya, general director of the "Altan Shagay" company, as its chairwoman. This was announced today at the press center of the Mongolian Foreign Ministry.

Members of the leadership of the new political organization answered journalists' questions. In particular, it was stated that MUPPO has united not only unions, movements, and organizations of owners of private enterprises, firms, companies, and cooperatives, but also all those who oppose the monopoly of state ownership. The party is aiming to participate in the making of political decisions connected with economic problems, and first and foremost with privatization. In O. Zaya's opinion, this is being implemented slowly and incorrectly.

The MUPPO chairwoman stated that the new political organization intends to become a party of the parliamentary type and to participate in the forthcoming parliamentary elections in June this year.

North Korea

Paper Says South Not 'Sincere' About Agreement

SK2003125392 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0029 GMT 19 Mar 92

[NODONG SINMUN 19 March commentary: "What Do the Developments in South Korea Following the Effectuation of the North-South Agreement Show?"]

[Text] The Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, and Cooperation and Exchange Between the North and South and the Joint Declaration on Denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula, adopted and put into effect by the two sides, are declarations of national independence for resolving the issue of national reunification on the strength of the people, without outside intervention. This proves again that the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity for national reunification are an immutable program for national reunification; a declaration of great national unity on firmly realizing national reconciliation and unity after bringing an end to the history of distrust and confrontation; and an antinuclear peace declaration on publicly promising the realization of nonaggression between the North and South and the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

These historic documents fully correspond to the desire of our people for national reunification, considering national reunification to be the life of the nation and the current trend of moving toward independence and peace.

Our party and the Republic's Government, which have created a common national felicitous event by having adopting and putting into effect the historic North-South agreement after unsparing sincerity and effort and while consistently maintaining the line of one Korea and the line of peace, are respectful of the North-South documents and are doing their utmost to realize them.

Our side's fair position and sincere attitude toward dialogue in the meetings of the subcommittees formed in accordance with the North-South agreement and the joint declaration of denuclearization and in the contacts between the two sides' delegation to discuss the formation and operation of the North-South nuclear-control commission is evidence of our sincere approach to the spirit of the North-South agreement.

Nevertheless, the developments in South Korea over more than three months since the North-South agreement was adopted and over the past month since the agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization took effect are exactly the opposite of developments in the North.

As has been reported, the person in highest authority in South Korea poured cold water on the national aspiration for reunification that was heating up by saying that the agreement was not of great significance.

Even after agreeing on solving the national reunification question on the strength of the people, the South Korean authorities have agreed with U.S. President Bush, who made a junket to South Korea at the beginning of the New Year, to keep U.S. troops occupying South Korea in place under a pretext and then hatched a plot with the Japanese prime minister, who came to South Korea at their invitation, for the purpose of doing harm to their fellow countrymen in the North.

This is not an expression of an intention to reconcile and unite with the fellow countrymen, but a chronic toadyist and traitorous disposition in league with an outside force to do harm to fellow countrymen. It runs counter not only to the spirit of the North- South agreement, but also to their own statements about the principle of settling things between the parties concerned. For the agreed points concerning the North-South Agreement on Reconciliation and Cooperation and Exchange clearly states that South Korea should remove the ideological and systematic wall, including the National Security Law, an evil, antireunification law hostile to us.

Arguing that the National Security Law has lost its justification since the adoption of the agreement, the South Korean people have raised voices demanding that the law be abolished and that the patriotic figures who visited the North and political offenders who have been arrested and imprisoned on charge of violating that law be set free without delay.

In spite of this, not only have the South Korean authorities failed to show any sign of abolishing the National Security Law, a fascist evil antireunification law, and set free the patriotic figures who visited the North; rather, they have continued to arrest and punish those calling for independence, democracy, and reunification by wielding that evil law. This indicates an intent to keep the policy of North-South confrontation in place and is incompatible with the spirit of the agreement that has clearly specified North-South reconciliation.

The South Korean authorities are also behaving in a way that is far cry from the spirit of the agreement and the joint declaration in which they have committed to nonaggression and denuclearizaiton.

Even though the South Korean authorities have announced that this year they would not conduct Team Spirit joint military exercise with the United States, they have continued military exercises of northward invasion under another pretext.

The stark reality is that between 500 and 600 aircraft carrying nuclear weapons launched from the U.S. military bases in the Pacific and in South Korea are conducting daily war exercises over South Korea, simulating an attack of northward invasion.

These developments in South Korea can only be construed as a lack of intention on the part of the South Korean authorities to implement the North-South agreement,although they have adopted the North-South agreement.

The South Korean authorities' insidious attempt becomes more visible in their suspicions about and maneuver to delay the implementation of the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on the denuclearization.

As has been disclosed, in a recent working coordination meeting of the ministers in charge of reunification affairs the South Korean authorities, while raising the issue of nonexistent nuclear development in the North, have decided to make the issue a precondition for progress in North-South relations and to delay follow-up measures on implementing the agreement because of this.

At the beginning of March, the person in highest authority in South Korea, coming into the open, publicly said in what was called a special interview that the South cannot implement the agreement under the pretext of the North's nuclear issue and even went so far as to babble about imposing military sanctions against us.

This is, in fact, the same as refusing to implement the agreed points. In practice, the South Korean authorities have publicly put the brakes on taking follow-up measures to implement the agreed points in the meetings of the subcommittees to the North-South high-level talks formed in accordance with the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on the denuclearization and in the contacts between the delegations of the two sides to discuss the formation and operation of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee.

Showing a great deal of reluctance to adopt an annexed document for the implementation of the joint declaration on the denuclearization at a contact between the delegations of the two sides to discuss the formation and operation of North-South Nuclear Control Joint Committee, the South side threw a monkey wrench in the discussion of the issues, babbling about the pilot inspection or limited number of hours. This caused the contacts to be stretched to seven rounds for what can be done through only three rounds of contacts.

Even at the meetings of the Political and Military Subcommittee to the North-South high-level talks, the South side came empty-handed to the meetings, without any prepared proposal for the adoption of a supplementary agreement concerning the portion in the North-South agreement dealing with reconciliation and nonaggression, and provoked us without cause, raising obstacles to the discussion of the issues.

The only thing the South side tirelessly refers to time after time at the contacts between the delegations of the two sides and at meetings of the subcommittees is the issue of the North's nonexistent nuclear development. They simply insist that they cannot do anything at all unless the North's nuclear issue is solved, as called for by the authorities.

On more than one occasions we have stated that we have neither the ability to develop nuclear weapons nor the need to do so.

To speak of the issue of international nuclear inspections, we have already signed the nuclear safeguards accord with the International Atomic Energy Agency and have made clear that we will accept nuclear inspection at an early date after going through the deliberation procedures at the upcoming session of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Even the issue of simultaneous nuclear inspections in the North and South can be smoothly settled if and when the North-South Nuclear Control Joint Committee has been formed.

It is wanton violation of the points in the historic North-South agreement and a naked breach of faith with us, as well as a development that cannot be tolerated and overlooked, that the South Korean Government authorities, who are supposed to be responsible for the implementation of the North-South documents of agreement, have made the issue of nuclear inspection a precondition for the implementation of the documents of agreement, without cause and justification, and stubbornly insisted on it.

As for the nuclear issue, it is the South side that arouses concern and apprehension in the people of the world.

With the existence in South Korea of a secret storage depot for U.S. nuclear weapons confirmed by the person who was involved in its construction, it has been fully revealed that the South Korean authorities have paid lip service to the absence of nuclear weapons and to denuclearization, while in reality keeping nuclear weapons hidden in secret depots, and kicked up the slanderous commotion of nuclear threat and babbling about the North's nonexistent nuclear development, like a thief calling others thieves.

People are now convinced that the South Korean authorities' declaration on the absence of nuclear weapons or the U.S. position that it welcomed it can convince no one, unless they let the public have access to the secret depots for storing the nuclear weapons and place them under nuclear inspection.

Such a suspicion has gotten stronger because the South side insisted on selective, partial pilot inspection and opposed at all costs all-out nuclear inspection covering the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea, rather than fully making public the deployment of the U.S. nuclear weapons and facts about nuclear bases.

Nevertheless, the South Korean authorities said that they would shelve implementation of the agreement, while kicking up a row over the North's nuclear issue. This can only be construed as an intention to avoid implementation of the agreements at all costs and finally overturn them.

These treacherous words and deeds by the South Korean rulers bear close resemblance to the Yusin dictator's treachery in the early 1970's. No sooner had he signed the 4 July joint communique than he trampled the fundamental spirit of the joint statement and the agreements and overturned them, saying that he could not trust the communists in the North.

With the adoption and effectuation of the historic North-South agreement documents, the desire for the fatherland's reunification has significantly grown among the people in the North, the South, and overseas. In particular, the South Korean people have been raising their voices demanding that the U.S. troops occupying South Korea be withdrawn and that the vicious antireunification laws, including the National Security Law, be abolished.

With the effectuation of the agreement, the theory of the threat of southward invasion, which the South Korean authorities had used as a playing card to justify all of their traitorous policies, proved groundless. As a result, using another theory of the threat of southward invasion called the nuclear threat, they are trying to justify the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. Forces; maintain the vicious antireunification laws, including the National Security Law; continue the policy of confrontation; and prop up their fascist security-oriented rule. This is clear to everyone.

The South Korean authorities' words and deeds have greatly worried and disappointed all people who joyfully and excitedly welcome the North-South agreement and the joint denuclearization declaration.

The South Korean authorities' words and deeds cast a dark shadow on the implementation of the North-South agreement. They said those words and committed those acts while manipulated by the United States ruling class, which does not want peace on the Korean peninsula and its peaceful reunification. When the North-South agreement was adopted, the United States said that it welcomes the agreement. In reality, it plotted all kinds of things to reduce it to mere paper.

U.S. Defense Secretary Cheney; Colin Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff; Wolfowitz, U.S. undersecretary of defense; and other bosses of the U.S.

Defense State Departments openly clamored that the South Korean authorities were hasty in adopting the agreement with the North, while spreading false rumors about the imminence of the North's nonexistent nuclear development. Intelligence schemers, including Lilley, assistant U.S. secretary of defense, and Douglas Paal, special White House assistant, constantly flew to Seoul to instruct the South Korean authorities to shelve the North-South agreement.

It was on U.S. instruction that the South Korean ruler, even before the ink on the North-South agreement was dry, said that he must shelve the implementation of the North-South agreement as long as the North does not receive nuclear inspection.

The North and South adopted and effectuated the historic documents and pledged to resolve the issue of peace in the country and its reunification with the nation's independent strength. At such a time, the U.S. imperialists, who have made South Korea their colonial, military base for almost a half century and imposed incalculable disasters and pain on our people, are attempting to occupy South Korea permanently and babbling about the North's nonexistent nuclear threat. This is a tyranny that only arrogant aggressors can commit.

The North-South agreement and joint denuclearization declaration are dignified documents that the North and South agreed upon, adopted, and effectuated through relevant ratification procedures. They are also the nation's common pledges that they promised to fulfill before the nation and the world. Neither the North nor the South has the right to violate the agreement and joint declaration.

Whether the North-South agreement and joint denuclearization declaration are implemented is a touchstone for determining a position on peace from a position on confrontation and war and a position on reunification from a position on division.

The South Korean authorities should abandon the anachronistic idea on relying on outside forces and a confrontation concept and return to the position of national independence. They should also withdraw the mistaken position of shelving the North-South agreement and joint denuclearization declaration under the pretext of the North's deceptive nuclear threat and must switch to a policy of sincerely implementing them.

If they intend to solve the reunification question in conformity with the nation's will and interest, the South Korean authorities should remove the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea at an earlier date according to the spirit of the North-South agreement, abolish the National Security Law, and release the pro-reunification patriots who once visited the North. In this way, the South Korean authorities will show their will to implement the North-South agreement by deeds.

It is our consistent position and all the people's will to achieve solid peace in the country and open the gate of peaceful reunification wide by implementing the North-South agreement and joint denuclearization declaration. No matter how divisionist forces at home and abroad run amok, they can never block the nation's vigorous march toward the reunification of the 1990's.

No Tae-u's 'Security-Oriented Rule' Criticized

*SK2103054392 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0450 GMT 21 Mar 92*

["Shameless Jargon of South Korean Chief Executive"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang March 21 (KCNA)—The South Korean chief executive at Chongwadae on March 18 prattled that he is a "president with patience and leniency" and many a time he "has shown patience, pardoned and waited for the sake of democratisation" he had "promised" in the "June 29 declaration".

Commenting on his rigmarole, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

The South Korean chief executive has committed too many crimes to praise himself.

What patience has the South Korean chief executive shown, what has he pardoned and what has he waited for?

After the "June 29 declaration," the South Korean press has all along exposed that the present ruler has backpedaled on his "commitments", placed himself in the seat of Chongwadae under the name of direct election, broadened the road of aggression for his U.S. master as his faithful servant and wielded the swords of the "security-oriented rule" to maintain and prolong the military fascist "regime" as a military dictator. What a big crime he has committed in laying obstacles in the way of reunification and keying up tensions with South-North confrontation!.

The South Korean chief executive said most emphatically that he "has pardoned" many. If there is any he pardoned, it would mean that he saved the dictator of the "Fifth Republic" who should have been punished and unchained the chief culprits of the "Fifth Republic" scandals.

Where did the South Korean chief executive get the face to say that he "has pardoned" many when the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and woman student Yim Su-kyong who did patriotic things, are still kept in prison and the souls of the martyrs who were killed by iron clubs and tear gas canisters are not yet asleep.

The South Korean chief executive had better not utter shameless words which cannot win the sympathy of people.

It is high time he knew that he cannot win the favor of the people, however deftly he may disguise himself.

'Abuse' of Election System in South Berated

SK2203092392 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0838 GMT 22 Mar 92

["Scandalous Political Fund-Raising for 'Elections'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA)—South Korean "Government"-subsidized economic organizations including the "Federation of Businessmen" collected political funds from comprador businesses to the tune of 5 billion won on instructions from the "government" and proffered them to it on the threshold of the "National Assembly election", according to a South Korean radio report.

NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today says this proves that the ruling party and its "administration" are resorting to power-and money-backed "elections" more zealously under the motto of "fair election" put up by the present ruler.

It is an unpardonable anti-people crime to collect political funds for "election" and abuse it in seeking their own interests, the news analyst of the paper says, and goes on:

Irregularities are a habitual bad habit of the South Korean rulers.

As already known, "Chongwadae" and the "Democratic Liberal Party" have systematically received and squandered a huge sum of politial funds from comprador businesses from long ago.

It is already widely known that the present ruler spent an astronomical amount of "campaign funds" accounting for one third of the "government budget" to take the "presidential" seat and that he received 30 billion won of political funds from the "Hanbo group" at the time of the "Suso housing scandal". The former honorary president of the "Hyundai business group" of South Korea told a press conference in January that he had annually given 5-6 billion won to the present ruler and 10 billion won two years ago as political funds.

A co-chairman of the Democratic Party exposed that political funds amounting to 500-600 billion won go to "chongwadae" annually and they reach 2,000-3,000 billion won in the year when "elections" are held.

Japanese Effort To Pass Troops Bill Criticized

SK2103051892 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0502 GMT 21 Mar 92

["Troop Dispatch Overseas Must Be Checked"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang March 21 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today refers to the Japanese Government authorities' desperate effort to pass the "U.N. Peacekeeping Operation Bill" through the Diet as an intention to open the door for a dispatch overseas of the Japanese "Self-Defense Forces [SDF]."

Japan's troop dispatch overseas runs counter to peace and it will lead to armed intervention and war of aggression against other countries, the news analyst says, and goes on:

The dispatch overseas of "SDF" presupposes military action.

If the bill approving "SDF's" dispatch overseas is railroaded through the Diet, Japan's military action overseas would be made a fait accompli and the use of Armed Forces be legalized.

Japan is aspiring after a "military power," a "political power" commensurate with her status as an "economic power" and trying to bring Asia under her sphere of influence.

To this end, she is making haste with military actions. The "SDF" is now hastening the modernization of its equipment, increasing its offensive capabilities and expanding its operational zone to the wide expanse of the Asia-Pacific, keeping itself ready for emergency action.

The "SDF" is now waiting for the door to open for its troop dispatch overseas.

It is the invariable strategic goal of the present Japanese ruling quarters to realize their old dream of "greater East Asia coprosperity sphere."

The "SDF's" dispatch overseas means a prelude to militarist reinvasion.

Japan's troop dispatch overseas poses a great menace to the independence and security of the other Asian countries.

If she really wants peace, Japan must give up her attempts at troop dispatch overseas and refrain from posing a threat to the Asian nations.

ROK Stance on 'Comfort Girls' Issue Berated

SK2203091292 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0831 GMT 22 Mar 92

["Righteous Initiative for National Dignity"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang March 22 (KCNA)—The political parties and public organizations in the northern half of Korea at a joint meeting on March 20 called upon the political parties, public organizations and people of broad strata in South Korea to wage a vigorous joint struggle in demand of an apology of the Japanese Government for the "comfort girls for soldiers" and compensations for the damages.

This is a just initiative and appeal proceeding from a patriotic desire to defend the national dignity and interests by the concerted efforts of the North and the South, an analyst of NODONG SINMUN today says, and goes on:

At the sixth inter-Korean high-level talks we proposed to the South side that the North and the South jointly provide against the "comfort girls" issue and Japan's attempt at nuclear arming. The South Korean authorities, however, not only negatively reacted to our just proposal but "formally notified" the Japanese authorities of it as if they accomplished a great mission and are joining hands with them.

This tells that the South Korean authorities are following in the footsteps of their preceding pro-Japanese sycophant traitors who hushed up the criminal deeds of the Japanese imperialist aggressors in return for a meagre 300 million dollars.

Still today when it has become clear that they are to blame for the criminal "comfort girls" problem, the Japanese authorities are failing to show an attitude of sincerely settling it, claiming that it had been resolved through the South Korea-Japan "agreement."

Under such conditions, it is natural either in view of national interests or in view of defence of human rights to solve the "comfort girls" problem by the united efforts of representatives of the political parties, public organizations and people of all social standings in the North and the South in the interests of the nation.

We hope representatives of the political parties and public organizations and people of broad strata in South Korea will show a positive response to the appeal of the joint meeting.

The South Korean authorities must give up the disgraceful and humiliating pro-Japanese stance and cease from obstructing the sacred joint action against Japan for the national dignity and interests.

Foreign Trade Minister Meets Egypt's Sidqi

SK2203051492 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Kim Tal-hyon, chairman of the External Economic Committee and minister of Foreign Trade, who is head of our country's government trade delegation, paid a courtesy visit to Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi on 19 March.

The delegation head conveyed the greetings from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at the meeting.

Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi was extremely grateful for this and asked the delegation head to convey President Muhammed Husni Mubarak's, the Egyptian Government's, and the people's greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, and the Korean Government and people.

The prime minister said that the friendly relations between Egypt and the DPRK, which have a long history, are developing notably and hoped that the economic cooperation and exchange will be strengthened accordingly.

He said that he will, in the future as in the past, support the DPRK Government's stand on the country's peaceful reunification. He also hopes that the Korean people's desire for the fatherland's reunification will be realized as soon as possible so that peace can be secured on the Korean peninsula.

Talks were held in a friendly atmosphere.

The Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade and the DPRK ambassador to Egypt were present at the meeting.

Economic Delegation Meets Cambodia's Sihanouk

SK2303045892 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, received our country's government economic delegation led by Chong Song-nam, minister of External Economic Affairs on 18 March.

The head of the delegation conveyed the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's greetings to His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk at the meeting. His Royal Highness Prince Sihanouk expressed his deep gratitude and asked the delegation head to convey his sincere wishes of longevity to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. Talks were held in a friendly atmosphere.

On the same day His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk arranged a dinner for the delegation.

Article Stresses Ideological Building of Party

SK2103063492 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0017 GMT 20 Mar 92

[NODONG SINMUN 20 March special article: "Ideologically Building the Party of the Working Class Makes the Party a Body With Ideological Purity"]

[Text] Ideological building of the party of the working class, together with its organizational building, is of great significance in strengthening and developing the party.

Today our party is vigorously leading the revolutionary cause with indomitable combat capabilities. This is attributable to the fact that our party is brilliantly implementing the theory on ideological party building, a unique chuche theory on party building.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il comprehensively expounded the scientific nature and vitality of the chuche theory on party building which has been developed and systematized on the basis of the immortal chuche idea, thus elucidating the justness of the theory on ideological party building.

The content of the chuche theory on party building, the theory on ideological party building, is a new and unique theory also created by our party. Proceeding from the principle and theory of the revolutionary outlook on the leader, our party attached primary importance to ideological building of the party for the first time in history, and pioneered this domain anew. Thus, our party gave a perfect, scientific explanation to the issue of ideological party building.

What is of particular significance in this is a unique theory pertaining to the essence and principle of ideologically building the party of the working class.

Dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: The ideological building of the party is a work of making the party a body with ideological purity.

The ideological building of the party of the working class is, in essence, making the party a body with ideological purity and ideologically dyeing the party and revolutionary ranks one color. Ideological building the party, together with organizationally building the party, constitutes an important part of party building, and is an essential demand in strengthening and developing the party into a powerful combat unit which is firmly united with the leader with one ideology and one will.

The classical definition of ideologically building the party as the work of making the party a body with ideological purity was made on the basis of the original nature and mission of the party and of the immortal chuche idea.

The party is a political organization of the people who are united on the basis of common ideology. The party of the working class is a vanguard organization of the working class which struggles to realize the leader's ideas and ideals.

Therefore, it is important to strengthen the party to ensure the party's ideological purity. Only when one ensures the party's ideological purity by properly carrying out the ideological building, can one educate and reform all cadres and members of the party in a communist and revolutionary manner, and strengthen the party into a political organization with ideological and conscientious unity and cohesion.

The work of consolidating the party ranks organizationally can be successfully carried out only when ideological purity is ensured. Making the party a body with ideological purity is the work of making one ideology—the leader's revolutionary idea—monolithically dominate the entire party. Doing this means implementation of the party building principle for establishing the party's monolithic ideology in the domain of ideological building.

Thoroughly establishing the monolithic ideological system within the party means strengthening and developing the party's organizational and ideological foundation, and is a basic issue deciding the strengthening and development of the party and the fate of the revolution and construction.

The party of the working class is a united organic body which exists and carries out activities by assuming the leader's revolutionary idea as its bloodline. Therefore, only one ideology should dominate the party.

The party of the working class was founded by the leader and is to carry out its activities under the leader's unitary leadership. Thus, the guiding ideology, which should be filled in the party of the working class, is only the revolutionary ideology of the leader.

A man cannot maintain his life if his blood is mixed with a different type of blood. Therefore, the party of the working class should not allow any idea other than the leader's idea. If the party allows any ideas other than that of the leader to exist within itself even to a slight degree, it cannot ensure the party's ideological purity nor can it maintain its life as a political organization.

Only when all party members, who constitute the party, are armed with the leader's idea, can they tenaciously fight for the party, the leader, the nation, and the people with a firm faith without wavering in any storm and achieve the iron-clad ideological and conscientious unity. Thus, they can advance the revolution and construction according to the leader's intention.

Assuming that as a basic principle in the ideological building of the party to remake the party on the leader's revolutionary idea, our party is thoroughly implementing this work. Thus, our party thoroughly established the leader's ideological system in the entire party, and achieved solid unity and cohesion. Based on this, our party vigorously accelerated the revolution and construction.

What is important in making the party of the working class a firm body with ideological purity is to firmly ensure the unitary leadership of the party center in ideological work. Ensuring the unitary leadership of the party center in ideological work means the establishment of a revolutionary system and order in which all important issues in the party's ideological work are arranged and resolved according only to the intention of the party center, thus firmly ensuring a monolithic ideological system within the party.

The party's ideological purity is to be realized by monolithic nature of ideology. Thoroughly ensuring unitary guidance of the party center over the ideological work is an essential issue for the party of the working class to precisely carry out the ideological work in conformity with its own original nature.

The ideological work deals with ideology of people. Therefore, this work should always be carried out in a prudent manner. The practical experience in building our party clearly shows that when the party's unitary guidance on the party's ideological work is realized, we can thoroughly prevent various forms of ideologies from infiltrating into our party and can firmly ensure ideological purity by filling the entire party with the leader's ideology.

What is important in making the party a body with ideological purity is to thoroughly establish chuche in the ideological work. Establishing chuche in the ideological work means implementing the ideological indoctrination work for party members and workers in compliance with our people's idea and sentiments, with the demand of our revolution and with the practical situation of our country.

Only when chuche is established in the ideological work, can we arm all party members and workers with the leader's revolutionary idea and vigorously inspire them to the revolutionary struggle and construction work.

The basic method for establishing chuche in the ideological work is to correctly determine the content of the ideological work. Correct determination of the contents of the party's ideological work firmly ensures success in ideological work.

Only when the party of the working class correctly defines the content of the ideological work, can it carry out the ideological work in the correct way and ensure ideological purity within the party.

The party of the working class should define the contents of ideological work according to the original nature of the party.

The party of the working class is a guiding political organization to realize the leader's idea. Therefore, the party's ideological work should be carried out in such a way as to dye the party and the revolutionary ranks one color with the leader's revolutionary idea—the party's guiding idea—and to vigorously inspire the party members and workers to implement the leader's revolutionary cause.

The most important task in our party's ideological work is to firmly arm the party members and workers with the chuche idea. The chuche idea is our party's unitary idea and the life of our revolution and nation.

The way of accomplishing the socialist cause by breaking through all difficulties and trials is to advance by highly upholding the banner of the chuche idea.

The party's ideological work should be advanced by assuming it as a basis to firmly arm the party members and workers with the chuche idea. The base of education in the chuche idea is education on the principle.

Only when party organizations intensify indoctrination in the principle of the chuche idea among the party members and workers, can they carry out all works and lead their lives according to the principle of chuche. Deep awareness of the principle serves as a basis in formulating a revolutionary outlook on the world. It is important for party organizations to strengthen education on loyalty to the party and the leader, on party policies, on revolutionary tradition, on class and on socialist patriotism among party members and workers, in addition to education on the principles of the chuche idea.

All this ideological work should be carried out in such a way as to make party members and workers firmly formulate the chuche-type outlook and position. It is important in thoroughly establishing chuche in ideological work to constantly improve the form and method of ideological work according to the practical situation.

The ideological work is a work to reform the people's ideology and to inspire them to the revolutionary struggle. The people's ideology is not fixed but changes constantly. The people's ideological and conscientious standards are different from each other, and the conditions and circumstances in which their revolutionary struggle is carried out are also different from each other.

Therefore, if the ideological work is carried out in a fixed form and fixed style, one cannot attain any success. Ideological work should be constantly improved and strengthened according to the development of the people's idea and consciousness and the revolutionary mission.

Today the chuche theory on ideologically building the party has been comprehensively embodied in our country under the party's wise leadership, thus attaining a proud victory in party building and in carrying out the revolutionary cause.

The party ranks have been fostered to be units of chuche-type communist revolutionaries who assume the chuche idea as their outlook on the world and endless loyalty and filial piety as their first life [cheil saengmyong]. Through the struggle to dye the entire party one color with the chuche idea, the party's ideological purity has been ensured at the highest level, and the single-hearted unity of the leader, the party and the masses has been firmly consolidated.

Even under the condition in which the antisocialist maneuvers of the imperialists and reactionaries have become more vicious than ever before, our chuche revolutionary cause is vigorously advancing without the slightest degree of wavering.

Our party became the organizer of all victories of our people and a great guide of the socialist cause of our era. Our party's authority is increasing each day. This is the great victory of the chuche theory on ideologically building the party.

Today we are faced with the important and glorious task to accomplish the socialist cause—the chuche revolutionary cause—to the end by further strengthening our party's combat capabilities and by constantly increasing its guiding role.

By firmly adhering to the chuche theory on ideologically building the party, we should consistently implement the principle and method of the theory. We should strengthen and develop our party into an everlasting chuche-type revolutionary party by strengthening the party's combat capabilities in every way and constantly increasing its guiding role. Thus, we will accomplish the socialist cause to the end under the banner of the chuche idea.

South Korea

Libya Reportedly Shielding Assets in Local Banks

SK2203103492 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 22 Mar 92 p 6

[Text] In preparation for possible UN sanctions, Libya transferred $3 billion—about half of its assets in Europe—to five banks in the ROK according to AL-HAYAH, a pro-Arab paper published in London, dated 21 March.

Citing bank sources in Europe, AL-HAYAH said Libya deposited the $3 billion in five banks in the ROK, including the Korea Exchange Bank and Bank of Seoul, that are providing funds for the ROK companies that have contracted for the $25 billion-scale artificial waterway project in Libya.

This report comes at a time when the UN Security Council is discussing a draft resolution calling for an air blockade and the banning of arms shipments to Libya in connection with the Libyan role in the explosions of two Western passenger airliners. The paper said: Libya is preparing for the worst, anticipating a naval blockade, the freezing of overseas assets, and an air blockade on Libya.

The paper added that Libya also transferred about $38 million to banks in Bahrain.

New Accord Said To Show Russia 'Favors' South

SK2303085292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0820 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Seoul, March 23 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Russia will make "the joint pursuit of liberal democracy and a market economy as a common value" part of the preamble to an agreement to be signed during Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit in September, signalling that Russia has dumped its equidistant policy and now openly favors South Korea over North Korea.

The agreement was reached during a visit by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev earlier in the month.

Details of the proposed accord will be discussed when Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok visits Moscow in June or July, according to a reliable source. The accord will govern relations between South Korea and Russia.

"Adoption of liberal democracy and a market economy as a common value to pursue means in effect that Russia no longer recognizes North Korea or its communist system based on Kim Il-song's chuche ideas," the source said.

He said the government would be very careful, however, about military cooperation with Russia in view of its effect on North Korea and other neighboring countries.

He said the basic accord would, in principle, incorporate the Moscow declaration agreed on between South Korean President No Tae-u and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow on Dec. 13-16, 1990.

"The government will consider raising, during Yeltsin's visit to Seoul in September, the matter of having Russia revise the provisions of Article 1 of the USSR-North Korea mutual assistance agreement that provide for automatic intervention in any war that North Korea is involved in," he said.

The Moscow-Pyongyang agreement was taken over by Russia after the Soviet Union disintegrated.

Inter-Korean Exchange Subcommittee Delegates Named

SK2203115792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0818 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Seoul, March 21 (YONHAP)—South and North Korea notified each other Saturday of their delegates to Wednesday's Inter-Korean Exchanges and Cooperation Subcommittee working-level contact.

South Korea's list includes Kim In-ho, assistant economic planning minister for external policy coordination, Song Yong-tae, advisor at the National Unification Board, and Shin Hyun-ung, director-general of the cultural policy bureau at the Culture Ministry.

North Korean delegates are Son Chong-chol, deputy director of Research Institute of Foreign Trade and Economy, Kim Chae-song, director of Administration Council Secretariat, and Kim Sung-kuk, deputy editor-in-chief of NODONG CHONGNYON (WORKING YOUTH).

The Inter-Korean Exchange and Cooperation Subcommittee met for the first time last Wednesday but could not agree on how many agreements to adopt on what areas.

South and North Korea decided on an interim working-level contact March 25 at the truce village of Panmunjom for negotiations before the second subcommittee meeting next month.

Defense Ministry Seeking To Upgrade Marines

SK2103122892 Seoul YONHAP in English 1214 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Seoul, March 21 (YONHAP)—The Defense Ministry has decided to restore 11 branches to the Marine division of the Navy with a view to enhancing its status as a combat force, defense officials said Saturday.

An amendment to the Military Personnel Management Law, which is to be submitted to a cabinet meeting and then to a special National Assembly sitting in May, seeks to revive the 11 branches, including Infantry, Artillery, Armor, Engineering, Military Police and Transport, which were unified into a single branch in 1973.

Ministry officials said the decision was made in line with the need to upgrade the status of the Marine division of the Navy as a combat force and enhance the morale of its members.

The amendment also has it that the president will relegate his rights to appoint major general-level commanders of some military units to the defense minister or the Chiefs of Staff of the three armed forces.

It seeks to extend the compulsory service periods of Air Force pilots and technical noncommissioned officers from 10 to 15 years for long-term services and seven to 12 years as for short-term services.

Junior Officer Alleges Soldiers' Votes Coerced

SK2303023592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0223 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Seoul, March 23 (YONHAP)—An army lieutenant alleged Sunday that officers pressured soldiers to vote for the ruling party by using open ballots and threatening to make black marks in their performance reports.

Lt. Yi Chi-mun, 24, a member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), said soldiers at the headquarters company voted in an open ballot in front of their master sergeant in charge of personnel affairs.

Officers said the ruling party must get at least 80 percent of the votes and told the soldiers to vote for the ruling party since the election results would be reflected in their performance merit reports around April 10, Yi told a press conference.

Soldiers were also instructed to vote for members of President No Tae-u's party as the president is the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, he charged.

Yi was whisked away by 10 men from the Capital Defense Command at the end of the press conference held at the office of the citizens' coalition for a fair election in downtown Seoul. Some 560,000 soldiers were voting from March 16 to Monday in absentee ballots before Tuesday's general election.

The Defense Ministry said it would launch an investigation into the allegations and punish anyone found to be involved in such activities.

NSP Employees Arrested for Illegal Campaigning

SK2103065292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0631 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Seoul, March 21 (YONHAP)—The prosecution is investigating four members of the agency for National Security Planning (NSP) caught stuffing mailboxes with fliers attacking an opposition candidate running in the Kangnam-B constituency.

Han Ki-yong, 37, and three other security agents were found early Saturday morning putting leaflets against Democratic Party candidate Hong Sa-dock into mail boxes in Kaepo-tong, southern Seoul.

They were hauled off to the Kangnam Police Station by Hong's campaign staff and the police handed them over to the prosecution later Saturday morning.

"If the illegal electioneering is confirmed, they will be charged under the parliamentary election law," the prosecution said.

"If NSP officials, who have to be neutral in elections, are found intervening illegally, the prosecution will check into their backgrounds and everyone concerned will be called in for questioning regardless of their status," a prosecution official said.

NSP Official Apologizes

SK2103101992 Seoul YONHAP in English 1007 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Seoul, March 21 (YONHAP)—A responsible official of the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP) offered an apology to the nation for his agency's failure to prevent its officials from getting involved in outlawed electioneering.

Referring to the four NSP members caught red-handed while stuffing mailboxes with fliers vilifying an opposition candidate early Saturday morning in Seoul, the official said, "We regret that they were involved in the illegal electioneering even though their acts were totally irrelevant to the agency."

He said an initial investigation by the agency found out that Han Ki-yong and three of his subordinates acted at a pressing request of Han's friend. "They will be punished in accordance with the results of a closer investigation," he added.

Intelligence Organizations Criticized

SK2303112192 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 23 Mar 92 p 3

[Article by reporter Son Sok-chun from the "Fluoroscope" column: "'Hidden Intention' of Two Intelligence Organizations"]

[Text] The Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] was caught in the "porous" nets of the law for getting involved in the elections. Then the involvement of the

Armed Forces Defense and Security Command [DSC] in rigged elections was disclosed, shocking the people.

The NSP and DSC are two of the intelligence organizations which were formerly the ROK Central Intelligence Agency—"the object of terror" to ROK society in the past—and threatening to the ROK Armed Forces Security Command. They changed their names after pledging a new start.

Needless to say, very few thought that these two intelligence organizations would be reformed. However, at a time when the government claims to be democratic and the president loudly talks about fair elections at every opportunity, these two organizations are deeply involved in this nation's political affairs behind the scenes. This is indeed an issue which should not be overlooked. People suspect that all slogans shouted by the government of the Sixth Republic about "fair" elections are empty words aimed at manipulating public opinion.

The ruling forces are optimistic about victory in the elections, claiming that there is no distinct "wind" favorable to opposition parties nor acute points of dispute, as some newspapers have reported. The people want to know why the ruling forces resorted to such "unreasonable" means despite such optimistic prospects. Whenever the ruling forces find the opportunity, they say they have no intention of revising the Constitution to favor the cabinet system.

The people still remember the ruling forces' declaration that they would not merge the three political parties. However, they founded the Democratic Liberal Party only a few days after their declaration. Thus, the people doubt the ruling forces' pledge not to revise the constitution. Under this circumstance, the opposition holds that the unlawful act committed by two of the nation's intelligence organizations is related to the attempt to secure assembly seats in the 24 March general election to make constitutional revision possible. Such an allegation by the opposition is persuasive. Furthermore, the ruling party, fearing that the Unification National Party [UNP] might take votes away from it, is scheming to disperse the votes for opposition parties by intentionally giving the impression that the UNP was being oppressed. [sentence as published] One cannot be sure to what extent the ruling sphere's political maneuvers against the opposition parties will influence the upcoming general elections. However, what is clear is that the ruling forces have not completely discarded the temptation of intelligence politics. We hope that the voters' ballots will reflect a prudent and wise decision.

Kim Tae-chung Support in Cholla Region Examined

SK2103021792 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 21 Mar 92 p 2

[By staff reporter Sin Yong-pae]

[Text] Kohung, Chollanam-to—Could there be two presidents in a nation? In this South Cholla Province, not a few people seem to have another president in mind other than President No Tae-u.

"Because he is the president of the South Cholla Province," said a man, when asked why he is so enthusiastic about opposition leader Kim Tae-chung.

The man, who drives a taxi for living, was one of about 10,000 people at a stumping rally to hear Kim's campaign speech. This township has a population of 50,000.

Residents here believe that they are the victims of what they claimed the government's discriminatory policy. They contended that the Cholla region of the southwestern section of the country is less developed than the Kyongsan provinces, which sent No as well as former Presidents Chon Tu-hwan and Pak Chong-hui to the presidential office of Chongwadae.

"Mr. Kim Tae-chung is the only political leader who can ease our bitter feelings," the cabbie declared.

Such sentiment seemed to be shared by many others at the gathering. The audience wildly cheered and shouted "mansae" (hurrah) whenever Kim lambasted the No administration and the ruling Democratic Liberal Party.

Kim, co-leader of the main opposition Democratic Party, has recently been barnstorming various parts of the country to drum up support for his party's candidates running in the March 23 parliamentary elections.

Political analysts generally agree that regional antagonism between the Kyongsang and Cholla regions will likely be a crucial factor in the election, as in the previous election four years ago.

In the April 26 election of 1988, Kim's party, then called Party for Peace and Democracy, swept all the parliamentary seats at stake in the Cholla provinces. The party, on the other hand, got nary a single seat in the Kyongsang provinces.

Political leaders now on the campaign trail for the current election have come under fire for fanning rivalry among regions.

Ruling party Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam, for example, has been criticized for his campaign speeches in his home turf of Pusan and South Kyongsang Province, in which he characterized next week's general election as a link to achieving his personal presidential ambitions.

Well aware of such criticism, Kim Tae-chung appears to be cautious. He abruptly called off a scheduled rally in Kwangju, his political stronghold.

"I feel sorry for Kwangju citizens for canceling the rally, but I believe they will understand my efforts to stop the spread of regional animosity," he told reporters.

Some critics say, however, that he may have called off the Kwangju rally, partly because of pressure from an "alliance of 1,000 democratic citizens of Kwangju."

The group, which backs independent candidate Yi Mun-ok in a Kwangju constituency, called on the opposition leader not to visit the city, arguing that it would only incite regional feelings.

Yi, a former government inspector, is said to have a fairly good chance of winning, a situation which many political scientists point out as a sign that may herald change in domestic politics marred by intense localism.

It seems, however, that it would take considerable time for such favorable signs to firmly take root in domestic politics.

"I have waited for over two hours to see Mr. Kim Tae-chung," said a middle-aged man at the rally.

He said he would not miss the opportunity to see Kim for the first time in nearly five years. Kim last visited this township during the 1987 presidential campaigning.

Kim ran for president twice. He first lost to Pak Chong-hui in 1971 and to No in 1987.

Support for Kim seems to have become a tradition in the Cholla provinces during the past two decades or so.

A college woman at the rally said, "My parents like Kim very much, and so do I."

"Why do we like him? Well, people here say that if he became president, we would be better off," she said.

Chong Chu-yong Accuses Daewoo Head of Collusion

SK2203042292 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 22 Mar 92 p 2

[Text] Chong Chu-yong, leader of the Unification National Party, lashed out at Daewoo Group chairman Kim U-chung yesterday, illustrating that relations between the two are very bad.

The 77-year-old founder of business conglomerate Hyundai Group mildly criticized Yi Myong-pak, who once worked for him and is now running for a parliamentary seat as a ruling party candidate.

Expressing his bitter feelings toward the Daewoo chairman, Chong accused him of collusion with the government. "Since the inauguration of his group, chairman Kim has done business in collusion with the government. He is a man who has not built a single factory on his own," Chong claimed.

He indicated that he still harbors bad feeling against Kim with regard to a business merger enforced by Chon Tu-hwan in 1980, several months after the assassination of Pak Chong-hui.

"I strongly resisted the merger plan, but Kim expressed his willingness to accept unconditionally," Chong stated.

On Yi Myong-pak's critical remarks against him, Chong said he thinks that Yi was forced to speak under pressure from the government.

Kim and Yi, on separate occasions Friday, found fault with Chong's participation in politics.

Predicts UNP To Win 120 Seats

SK2203043392 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 22 Mar 92 p 2

[Text] Chong Chu-yong, chairman of the Unification National Party [UNP], declared yesterday that his party aims at becoming the majority in the 14th National Assembly, not simply to remain as a minority opposition group.

In a press conference at his campaign office, he predicted that the two-month-old UNP would get 120 seats in the Tuesday elections at which 237 local districts are at stake. Sixty-two other seats for the 299-member legislature will be allocated to parties in proportion of their support.

"I have been convinced during the ongoing campaign trail that we can win 120 districts. In the worst situation, we will get 80 seats. The UNP is a party intent on victory, not a minority party checking the ruling party," he said.

"By winning a landslide triumph in the general elections," he went on, "We will save the nation from desperation and hand over a glorious, reunified fatherland to our offspring."

He charged the No Tae-u administration and its party with resorting to illegal ways and means to stem what he described as a UNP boom.

"Anywhere we go for stumping, we draw tens of thousands of people. I think the ruling camp could not imagine that the people have a strong wish for new politics which could replace corrupt and dishonest government."

Irritated by the increasingly visible UNP popularity, government agencies have disrupted his party's campaigning and one good example was a bugging by police at Ulsan Tong (East) district, the base of the Hyundai business group founded by Chong, he added.

"The UNP will establish an honest government and show new politics, no matter how the administration and the ruling party may seriously oppress us. The corrupt politicians will lose their ground at one stroke this time," he stressed.

CEMC Reviewing 'Illegal' UNP Advertisement

SK2303114392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0938 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Seoul, March 23 (YONHAP)—The Central Election Management Committee (CEMC) has accused the

Unification National Party of harming the CEMC by placing illegal advertisements in newspapers concerning the qualifications of party head Chong Chu-yong to be a candidate in the general elections.

"While the committee is taking a cautious attitude on the matter, offering an opportunity to explain, the UNP did harm to the CEMC in an absurd way by running newspaper advertisements that are banned by the election law. This is an unthinkable thing for a public party to do," the CEMC said in a statement issued after an "emergency" meeting Monday.

"Although the UNP stopped the advertisement at the committee's request, it was a grave challenge to a constitutional, independent authority, and erodes the people's trust in election management. We can't but express serious concern for this intolerable act," the statement said.

In a front page advertisement in the CHOSUN ILBO on Monday, the UNP said the CEMC was denying its constitutional authority and acting as "an underling" for the Agency for National Security Planning.

CHOSUN carried the ad in its first 10 editions Monday, but replaced it with one for a medicinal drink from the 11th edition"at the CEMC's wish," an official of the paper said.

The ad charged that the CEMC's decision to make a ruling on the qualification issue after Monday, the last day of election campaigning, betrayed "the crude tactics" of the government and the ruling party to ruin the UNP's election chances.

The CEMC said Saturday that questions had arisen over Chong's qualification to be a party head and a national constituency candidate for the National Assembly, because he was the publisher of "CHEYUK TONGUHOE (THE SPORTS FRATERNITY)," a free magazine published twice a year.

The CEMC gave Chong until 6 P.M. Monday to answer the charges and said it would make its ruling Tuesday afternoon. Chong is third in the UNP line-up of national constituency candidates.

The UNP, arguing that the magazine is not subject to the political party law and was circulated only to 262 members of the fraternity, said it did not understand why the CEMC had kept silent when the party registered its line-up.

The controversy surfaced after a local chapter official of the Minjung (Masses) Party recently sought CEMC's official position concerning Chong's qualifications to be a member of the UNP in light of the fact that he is still registered as the publisher of a periodical.

The law does not allow a person who publishes or otherwise manages a periodical registered with the information minister to be a promoter or a member of a political party.

As for the allegation by Kim Tae-chung, co-leader of the major opposition Democratic Party [DP], that the government and the ruling party are plotting to exchange ballot boxes and rig the election in other ways, the CEMC said it would take appropriate measures.

"We asked the DP on Sunday to submit concrete evidence of Kim's allegations. We will take appropriate measures based on how the DP reacts," CEMC spokesman Yi Hun-sang said.

The CEMC has, meanwhile, decided to send a letter to Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, asking him to respond to charges that officials of the Agency for National Security Planning have distributed materials defaming dp candidates and that soldiers have been forced to cast ballots for the ruling party.

Poll Shows Preference for More Opposition Seats

SK2203115592 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 22 Mar 92 p 2

[Article by reporter Yun Sok-hong on recent poll taken by Korea Gallop and CHOSON ILBO—percentage figures as published]

[Text] About two out of five eligible voters in the nation have not yet decided for which candidate they will vote. The main reason for their not having decided is that they do not know the candidates well or there is no candidate to their liking, according to a recent poll.

The poll, taken by the Korea Gallop and CHOSON ILBO, consisted of telephone interviews with 1,000 male and female voters over the age of 20 throughout the country except for Cheju Island. The poll was conducted on 19 March, 5 days before the election. When asked "Have you decided the candidate for whom you would like to vote in the upcoming National Assembly election?" 58.4 percent responded "Yes," 38.5 percent said "No."

Those who said they were undecided gave the following reasons: 39 percent said, "I do not know the candidates well," 36.1 percent said, "I have not found the candidate I like," 11.1 percent said, "I do not trust politics," and 6.8 percent said, "I am not interested in politics."

Of those who have not decided on a candidate, 44.1 percent were age 50 or older, 39 percent were in their forties, 36.8 percent were in their twenties, 34.7 percent were in their thirties, with those with less education showing higher percentage of indecision (46.9 percent with elementary school education or less, 38.7 percent with middle school education, 37.1 percent with high school education, and 33.1 percent with college education or more). As for the distribution of percentage by region, 48 percent were from North Cholla province, 45.2 percent from Kangwon province, 42.3 percent from South Chungchong province.

To the question, "which do you think is more important in the upcoming general elections, the ruling party's securing comfortable majority for stability or a larger number of opposition seats to check the ruling party?" Some 33 percent favored comfortable majority of the ruling party and 49.8 percent preferred a larger number of opposition seats, the latter far outnumbering the former.

As for the fairness in the election process, 40 percent said, "it is fair," 45.6 percent said, "it is not fair."

In particular, 70.5 percent of pollees said they thought that the representatives of political parties are using regional patriotism in the ongoing election campaign, only 17 percent responding to the contrary.

As to the question whether they regard the 14th general elections as an opportunity to evaluate the performance of the Sixth Republic, 48.9 percent said, "yes," and 31.5 percent said, "we can hardly say so," thus showing that the majority of the voters think that this is an opportunity to evaluate the performance of the Sixth Republic.

To the question, "do you think that the upcoming National Assembly election has a great bearing on the upcoming presidential election?" 81 percent said, "it has a great bearing," and only 13.1 percent said, "it has little bearing."

Survey Examines Positions of Party Candidates

SK2203063792 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 21 Mar 92 p 1

[Survey conducted by Citizens' Council for Economic Justice (Kyongsillyon) among candidates running for National Assembly general elections—results announced in Seoul on 20 March]

[Text] Seventy-nine percent of the candidates running for general elections for the 14th National Assembly find it necessary to tighten control over business conglomerates, while 77 percent believe that the real-name deposit system [a system that varies with the current financial system where bank accounts can be opened using pseudonyms] should be realized at an early date, before 1993.

Moreover, 69 percent of the candidates surveyed called for a drastic amendment in the labor union laws currently in force and 64 percent said that the election of the heads of local autonomous governments should be held before this June.

The political parties, however, have revealed great differences in their respective approaches toward these issues. For example, where the Unification National Party [UNP] called for easing the control over business conglomerates, the Democratic Party [DP] and the Party of the Masses [PM] demanded that the control be tightened. At the same time, the DP and the PM insisted that the labor union laws be drastically amended, the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and the UNP rejected the idea of a drastic amendment in the labor union laws.

These are the results of a survey conducted by the Citizens' Council for Economic Justice [Kyongsillyon] which were announced on 20 March. The Kyongsillyon forwarded questionnaires to a total of 1,205 candidates, including 154 candidates vying for proportional representation seats, running in the general elections for the 14th National Assembly to seek their opinions on policies. Only 437 candidates, including 69 candidates vying for proportional representation seats, replied to Kyongsillyon.

Nine DLP candidates, 147 DP candidates, 125 UNP candidates, 43 PM candidates, 54 New Political Party for New Political Reform, and 56 independent candidates responded to the questionnaires [total of replies from various party candidates as published].

Concerning the real-name deposit system, 77 percent of the surveyed insisted that it be realized at an early date beginning in 1993, 22 percent supported the idea of implementing it during the 14th National Assembly or implementing the initial phase of the real-name deposit system during the 14th National Assembly.

In detail, 78 percent of responding DLP candidates showed a negative attitude toward the immediate implementation of a real-name deposit system and instead favored implementing its first phase during the 14th National Assembly term of office.

Although 78.04 percent of the respondents favored tight control over business conglomerates, 17.29 percent replied that control should be drastically eased.

In particular, the DP and the PM candidates, 97.26 percent and 95.24 percent respectively, favored tight control, while 58.82 percent of the UNP candidates supported eased control, thereby clearly showing the distinct differences in the opposition parties' attitudes.

Regarding whether labor union laws currently in force should be amended or not, 68.69 percent of the respondents favored a drastic amendment, while 30.37 percent favored long-term study of an amendment. A long-term study of an amendment was favored mostly by DLP candidates, 88.89 percent, and UNP candidates, 64.71 percent respectively. Regarding the popularizing of golf, an absolute majority of the respondents, 91.36 percent called for an end to issuing licenses to new applicants for building golf courses, only 7.94 percent supported the continued issuance of new licenses. Among the parties, only the DLP, 77.78 percent, favored the continuing of the policy.

Regarding President No Tae-u's decision to postpone the heads of the local autonomous government elections, 64.25 percent supported holding the elections before June 1992, 25 percent supported holding the elections before the presidential election, and 3 percent insisted that the elections be held only after 1995.

From the survey results, Kyongsillyon termed the DLP as being the most conservative and the PM as being the most progressive. A breakdown of the various parties ranging from the most conservative to the most progressive is: The DLP, the UNP, the Party for New Political Reform, the DP, and the PM. The Kyongsillyon also said that given the clear distinction between the parties on issues raised in questionnaires, it is possible to foresee the emergence of political policies carried out according to policy lines. The Kyongsillyon has decided to provide a telephone answering service, specifically set aside for those who want to enquire about survey replies by individual respondents. This service will continue until voting day, 24 March. The telephone numbers are 747-0296, 747-0297, 747-0298.

Burma

SLORC Appoints Than Shwe as Defense Minister

BK2003143692 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Declaration No. 6/92 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar dated 20 March]

[Text] Appointment of cabinet minister.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] has appointed General Than Shwe, deputy commander in chief of the Defense Services, as defense minister.

By the authority vested in me.

Signed: Khin Nyunt, Major General, secretary-1, SLORC

Appoints Religious Affairs Minister

BK2003144692 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Declaration No. 7/92 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council dated 20 March 1992]

[Text] Appointment of member of cabinet.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] has appointed Major General Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon [Rangoon] Command, as minister of religious affairs.

By the authority vested in me.

Signed: Khin Nyunt, Major General, secretary-1, SLORC.

Reorganizes Home, Religious Ministries

BK2003144492 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Notification No. 23/92 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council dated 20 March 1992]

[Text] Reorganization of Ministries.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] has reorganized the Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs in order to effectively contribute to state security, law and order, local peace and tranquility, and internal and external propagation and the promotion of Sasana [Buddhism]:

1. Ministry of Home Affairs

2. Ministry of Religious Affairs

Signed: Khin Nyunt, Major General, secretary-1 SLORC

Abolishes Nine More Parties

BK2003112992 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Mar 92

[Order No. 8/92 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council dated 19 March 1992]

[Text] The following is an order abolishing some political parties:

1. At present there remain only 19 legal political parties under the Political Parties Registration Law. The Elections Commission has scrutinized the organizational standing, organizational progress, party membership, and party strength of registered political parties. It believes that these political parties have reached a reasonable stage of stability in organizational standing and progress, after having been granted organizational activities for about three years. The commission therefore scrutinized the organizational situation and membership of the political parties.

2. In scrutinizing political parties, it has been found that some have been unable to either send or present specific reports listing party branches, organizational situations, and party memberships. It has been found that some political parties were unable to clearly present their parties' political lines, ideologies, and policies, while officials of some political parties were found to have shortcomings in observing existing laws, bylaws, rules, and regulations. Some political parties have been found to have neglected their organizational activities because they thought their parties' standing was based on representatives being elected.

The commission is of the opinion that in implementing a compact and stable democratic system, such political parties should not be allowed to continue to exist.

3. As such, the State Law and Order Restoration Council, in accordance with the submission of the Election Commission, has abolished the following political parties with effect from today:

A. Mon National Democratic Front
B. National Democratic Party for Human Rights
C. Chin National League for Democracy
D. Naga Hills Regional Progressive Party
E. Kayah State National Congress for Democracy
F. Ta-ang Palaung National League for Democracy
G. Union Danu League for Democracy
H. Union Nationals Democracy Party
I. Lishu National Solidarity Party

4. This order shall have the force of law.

By the authority vested in me.

Signed: Khin Nyunt, Major General, secretary-1 of SLORC.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

Daily Interviews SRV Premier on Bilateral Ties

BK2003105392 Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English 2 Mar 92 pp 1, 4

[By Ignatius Stephan; quotation marks as published]

[Text] A former Vietcong mastermind, now the prime minister of Vietnam has stretched out his hand of friendship to Brunei and other ASEAN nations.

"Let us be friends," the visiting Vietnamese prime minister, Mr. Vo Van Kiet, said during an exclusive interview at the Istana [Palace] Darul Taqwa in Jerudong yesterday.

During his two-day visit to Brunei, the Vietnamese prime minister had an audience with His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di Pertuan [Ruler] of Brunei Darussalam.

Mr. Kiet said wide ranging issues covering friendly relations between the two countries were discussed.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Mr. Nguyen Manh Cam had extensive discussions with the Brunei Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Hj. Mohamed Bolkiah.

Speaking to the Bulletin, Mr. Vo Van Kiet said: "Let us forget the past and start building for the present and the future."

"What we want is to close the past. We do not want to raise the sad happenings and the subject of the horrendous sufferings and pain the Vietnamese people underwent.

"But then not only the Vietnamese people who were hurt but also for the American people, it was a great tragedy."

Vietnam will not use force to solve problems, he said.

For example, an agreement between Vietnam and China has been reached on common principles.

It involved most main issues and a settlement on a number of issues will be solved through negotiations.

These issues will not be settled by force but by talking to each other and by exploring all avenues.

"We considering the principles of peace most important in solving problems." [as published]

"As Vietnam is busy in restructuring its own economy it was determined to extend its friendship with all countries, especially with the ASEAN who are its immediate neighbours," he said.

This was one reason for his current tour.

"The problem over the Spratlys claim should also be settled through peaceful negotiations.

"Now with the ties established, relations between Brunei and Vietnam are bound to get even closer, he said.

"The whole region of Southeast Asia should be free from foreign military bases, the visiting premier said.

"Now this is what the Filipino people have decided, he added.

He went on to say: "But the Vietnamese people felt no bitterness or animosity towards the U.S.

"We feel the same towards the American people now as towards the French in the past. We feel no hostility.

But now all that is past. However if the current U.S. Government insists on reviving the past, it would be determental to US interests, particularly in the political arena.

He said this when the question of continue US trade embargo on Vietnam and on the question of U.S. stand on American soldiers missing in action [MIA'S] were mentioned.

But we have our own dignity. "You must remember that many of the American MIAs have been located.

"But hardly any of the Vietnamese MIAs have been traced so far.

The American war veterans and even the visiting U.S. Congressman after the war now realise the actual facts.

Even the journalists who have come with those to search for the missing relatives realise that the Vietnamese do not harbour any adverse sentiments against the American people.

"We are a patient peole. And we are prepared to fight long and hard to keep our dignity and freedom.

"During the long war with the French and then with the Americans, we had no sophisticated weapons.

"But the people were behind us," he added.

Diplomatic Ties Established With Guinea

BK2003101492 Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English 2 Mar 92 p 3

[Text] Brunei and the Republic of Guinea have decided to establish diplomatic relations with effect from February 28, 1992, a Foreign Ministry statement said.

The signing of the joint communique took place in New York.

Malaysia

Cambodian Deputy Premier Pays Official Visit

[Quotation marks as received]

BK2303075592 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0658 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, March 23 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysians can visit Cambodia without a visa.

This was announced by Cambodia's deputy prime minister, Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, who arrived here this afternoon on a four-day official visit.

Prince Chakkrapong, who is on his first official visit, said Malaysians were welcomed to visit Cambodia.

"I met my foreign minister about this two days ago and have informed Malaysia's ambassador to cambodia that we are doing away with the visa requirement for Malaysians who want to visit our country.

He said the move was a reciprocal gesture following Malaysia's decision to lift visa requirements for Cambodian nationals visiting the country last month. He said it was also a reflection of the close bilateral ties and cooperation which the two countries enjoyed.

Prince Chakkrapong said it was his first official trip since his appointment as deputy prime minister. He hoped to study the rapid development and economic success in Malaysia.

"We do not merely want good cooperation with Malaysia but a privileged relationship with the country and the people. He said Malaysia could help Cambodia in its efforts to rebuild and achieve economic prosperity.

"The thrust of our visit will be to enhance political and economic cooperation. We want Malaysia to share its experience in carrying out development in various fields," he said. Prince Chakkrapong said they would also study Malaysia's success in the rubber industry.

"Cambodia used to be well known for rubber in the past but over the last 22 years it has lost out in this field. We hoped to learn from Malaysia and to encourage Malaysians to invest in developing the rubber industry of my country."

He said Cambodia was particularly interested in the education system of Malaysia as it felt the good education system was one of the reasons for Malaysia's rapid success. On reintegration on Cambodian refugees into Cambodia, Prince Chakkrapong said they were facing a shortage of funds.

"We have to find the land to build the villages and also to provide agricultural land for the thousands of refugees. Communications facilities and the rainy season that is to begin in early May will further hamper the process.

He said the problem of land mines had to be overcome before land could be made available to the refugees.

"The United Nations High Commission for Refugees is also saddled with a shortage of funds.

Prince Chakkrapong thanked the Malaysian Government for sending the peacekeeping force to Cambodia to oversee the cease-fire agreement.

Visit Hailed

BK2303095092 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] An official Cambodian delegation is in Malaysia on a four-day goodwill visit. The deputy prime minister, Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, is the leader of the seven-member delegation.

This event highlights the close and cordial ties that marked Malaysia's relations with the new political order in Cambodia. The Malaysian Government has always supported the right of the Cambodian people to self-determination. After several years of negotiations, the Vietnamese troops withdrew from Cambodia. Now the new administration is working to restore order. At the same time more reconstruction has to take place before the country can go ahead with the general election.

All these calls for a massive deployment of U.N civilian workers as well as units of the peacekeeping force. Malaysian troops had already been stationed in Cambodia. Another batch will leave for U.N. service this week. The Malaysian contingent will oversee the return of the refugees from the Thai border region to their own homes in the interior. Another extremely difficult job that has to be done urgently is clearing mines. The U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) attaches priority to this exercise.

In the meantime, the Malaysian private sector is examining the investment potential available. Malaysian industrial and commercial enterprises have the confidence to embark on activities in Cambodia. With the launching of the labor-intensive exercises there will be greater employment opportunies for the people. Their ability to buy more consumer goods will in turn lead to increased demand for imports. In this manner the fragmentary economy can be transformed into a dynamic one. The essental prerequisite is political stability. In this matter, it is the Cambodian leaders themselves who must cooperate and work for national unity. The U.N. and many friendly nations have already committed themselves to the reconstruction of Cambodia. It is vital for the Government and the people to respond with enthusiasm.

The visiting delegation has exchanged views with Malaysian minister and officials. Members would also be able to see at first hand, various examples of Malaysian public and private sectors treatments. In fact, the Malaysian development success story can be a source of guidance for Cambodia.

Prince Norodom Chakkrapong's delegation will doubtlessly be followed by others from Cambodia. The Malaysian community will also welcome cultural exchanges and more tourism. In due course ASEAN hopes to welcome Cambodia as a member into the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Leaves for 13-Day Visit to U.S., Japan

BK2003142392 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Text] At the invitation of the U.S. [words indistinct] on the morning of 20 March His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee, chairman of the State of Cambodia Council of Ministers, and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, and Madame left Phnom Penh for a 13-day official visit to the United States, Japan, and France, from 20 March to 2 April. This visit is for the purpose of urging these countries to free funds for the UN Transitional Authority as soon as possible and informing them of the situation following the implementation of the Paris peace agreement.

Accompanying H.E. Hun Sen are, among others, Mr. Cham Prasit and Uch Kim-an, deputy ministers in charge of the Council of Ministers Cabinet; Khieu Kanharit, deputy minister in charge of the Council of Ministers Cabinet and aide to H.E. the chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Seeing the delegation off at the Pochentong International Airport were H.E. Chea Soth, Standing Committee member of the CPP Central Committee; H.E. Sar Kheng, Standing Committee member of the CPP Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of the interior; H.E. Say Chhum, Standing Committee member of the CPP Central Committee and standing vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; H.E. Mat Ly, Standing Committee member of the CPP Central Committee, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and vice chairman of the CPP Central Committee's Control Commission; H.E. General Tie Banh, Standing Committee member of the CPP Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of national defense; Mrs. Men Sam-an, Standing Committee member of the CPP Central Committee and chairman of the Federation of Cambodian Trade Unions; H.E. Nguon Nhel, Standing Committee member of the CPP Central Committee and minister of agriculture; H.E. Gen. Sin Song, Standing Committee member of the CPP Central Committee and minister of national security; H.E. Sim Ka, Standing Committee member of the CPP Central Committee and chairman of the Phnom Penh City Party Committee and People's Committee; H.E. Gen. Pol Saroeun, Standing Committee member of the CPP Central Committee, deputy minister of national defense, and chief of the General Staff of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF]; H.E. Gen. Ke Kimyan, Standing Committee member of the CPP Central Committee, first deputy minister of national defense, and chief of the General Political Department of the CPAF; H.E. Kong Sam-ol, member of the CPP Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; and several other ministers, deputy ministers, department chiefs and deputy chiefs of various ministries and offices.

Their Excellencies the representatives of diplomatic missions and permanent representatives of the United Nations, Japan, and Thailand accredited to Cambodia were also on hand.

Urges Dispatch of Japanese Forces

BK2203140592 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 22 Mar 92

["News flash"]

[Text] During His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen's talks with Yoshio Sakurauchi, chairman of the Japanese parliament, in Tokyo on the evening of 21 March, H.E. Hun Sen, the State of Cambodia's prime minister, said Japan should send its self-defense and police forces to join the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia in restoring peace in its role as an Asian country and an economic power whose duty is to contribute to maintaining stability in the world.

Addressing the understandable point expressed by some countries over the dispatch of Japanese troops outside Japan's border, H.E. Hun Sen pointed out that current international relations have immensely reduced this threat. Furthermore, in the current changes taking place in the world, Japan should portray a new image.

Concerning the implementation of the Paris agreement, H.E. Hun Sen highlighted the State of Cambodia's efforts to fully achieve the objective of this agreement. H.E. Hun Sen also praised the assistance of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk in promoting the implementation of the peace agreement in Cambodia, contrary to some parties which strive to destroy the agreement or create insecurity and instability in this (?fragile) situation, which could derail the entire peace agreement.

While expressing firm support for the State of Cambodia's efforts to find peace for the motherland, H.E. Yoshio Sakurauchi expressed his concerns over recent reports on the use of arms by the Khmer Rouge to expand the territory under their control, which is fully in violation of the Paris agreement. Furthermore, he promised to push his ruling party—the Liberal Democratic Party—and other political parties to agree on the dispatch of Japanese forces to take part in restoring peace in Cambodia during the Japanese parliament's session in the middle of this year.

H.E. Chairman of the Japanese parliament considered that the time has come for the Cambodian people to unite in rebuilding the country and that the Japanese people will make vigorous efforts to assist the Cambodian people to reap the fruit of peace.

Hun Sen Meets UNTAC Chief Akashi 18 Mar

BK2103053892 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0405 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Phnom Penh 21 Mar (SPK)—Hun Sen, chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers and member of Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC], received in Phnom Penh on Wednesday [18 March] Yasushi Akashi, chief of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC].

The talks focused on the implementation of the Paris agreement, the repatriation of 350,000 refugees, and the demobilization of 70 percent of military troops.

Chairman Hun Sen pledged to provide all facilities to the UN mission in Cambodia and to closely cooperate with the High Commissioner for Refugees for the repatriation of Cambodian refugees before the rainy season.

For his part, Akashi said he will do his best to finance and administer UNTAC forces and asked that all Cambodian parties respect the peace agreement in order to achieve the general elections in 1993.

Sihanouk Meets, Greets Various Foreign Officials

Briefed by UNHCR Official

BK2303080692 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] On 21 March, His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Cambodian SNC, received (Gerard Domino), representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

(Gerard Domino) briefed the prince on the preparations made by all relevant establishments and the repatriation situation of the Cambodian refugees from Thailand, which will start on 30 March.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk expressed happiness and profound admiration for (Domino) for his mission to organize and oversee the repatriation of Cambodian refugees from Thailand.

Meets With WHO Representatives

BK2303081192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] On the morning of 21 March at the Khemarin Palace, a meeting was held by representatives from the World Health Organization [WHO] with His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council.

Attending this meeting were Doctor (Jean-Paul Men), Doctor (Penelope Key), Doctor (T. Engelmer), representating the WHO; doctors from the State of Cambodia's Health Ministry; representatives from the State of Cambodia's Education Ministry; and representatives from the other Cambodian side.

The meeting focused on major issues to set up structures for organizing health care for the Cambodian people.

Receives Japanese Deputy Minister

BK2203035992 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] At noon on 20 March, His Excellency [H.E.] Koji Kakizawa, Japanese deputy foreign minister who is on a visit to Cambodia, paid a courtesy call on His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk expressed his delight and a warm welcome to the Japanese deputy foreign minister for paying an official visit to Cambodia. The prince said that this visit contributed to stimulating the peace process in Cambodia and to further developing the bond of solidarity, friendship, and bilateral cooperation between Cambodia and Japan.

H.E. Koji Kakizawa reported to HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk on his visit in Cambodia which has proceeded successfully.

Receives DPRK Economic Delegation

BK2103141192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] On the night of 18 March, His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, granted an audience to a delegation of the DPRK Ministry of External Economic Affairs, led by Chong Song-nam, minister of External Economic Affairs, which is on a visit to Cambodia.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk said that Chong Song-nam's visit to Cambodia contributed to further strengthening and expanding the relations of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between Cambodia and Korea. The prince also thanked the Korean Government and fraternal people for supporting and assisting the process for peace in Cambodia and for helping to rebuild Cambodia.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk also hosted a cordial reception for Chong Song-nam.

Son Sann, Ieng Muli Propose Measures, Meet Akashi

BK2303041992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Text] At the meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, chairman of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF], proposed that measures be taken to protect Cambodia's natural resources such as forest, oil, and precious metals and gemstones. H.E. Son Sann said felling trees should be regulated with proper laws because the loss of forest could produce weather changes resulting in drought or excessive rainfall causing great floods.

Concerning the exploitation of other natural resources such as exploration for oil, gold, and gemstones, this should be done for the benefit of the nation's budget and not for one's own pocket. H.E. Son Sann further said that all natural resources should be preserved for rebuilding the country and nation because borrowing foreign money to rebuild the country is not as easy as using one's own resources.

On this occasion, H.E. Ieng Muli, KNLF general secretary and SNC member, suggested that measures be taken to protect human rights in Cambodia with the aim of ensuring political stability in the country and security for the people and enabling the latter to freely express their views and move about without being arrested. On this point, H.E. Ieng Muli suggested that the United Nations find effective measures to protect humann rights. Apart from this, H.E. Ieng Muli proposed that the United Nations deploy UNTAC representatives at the office of each political party to receive complaints on various threats against the Cambodian people and other issues. On top of this, H.E. Ieng Muli requested direct telephone links with the UNTAC office for use at all times.

H.E. Yasushi Akashi, UNTAC chief, expressed thanks for these important proposals and said he will see to it that they become reality.

Last Wednesday [18 March], Their Excellencies Son Sann and Ieng Muli again met with H.E. Akashi to discuss various points for consideration in measures for the functioning of the SNC and UNTAC in the future.

Chea Sim: CPP Carries On Sihanouk's Policy

BK2303075192 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0400 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Phnom Penh 23 Mar (SPK)—Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and chairman of the National Assembly, and his wife recently attended the inauguration of Chhuk Monastery in Kamchay Mea District, Prey Veng Province, in the southeastern part of the country.

The reconstruction of the monastery started in 1989 and was financed by the local population.

Speaking on this occasion, Chea Sim recalled the policy on religious freedom adopted by his party since the country's liberation 13 years ago from the regime which transformed monasteries into torture centers or warehouses for organic fertilizers. The CPP has thus followed the religious policy of the Sangkum Reas Niyum of Prince Norodom Sihanouk before the 18 March 1970 coup, he said.

Chairman Chea Sim reaffirmed that his party and the State of Cambodia will do all they can to implement the Paris agreement leading to general elections.

Son Sen Addresses SNC Session 16 Mar

BK2103020492 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Mar 92

["Statement by His Excellency Son Sen, member of the Supreme National Council at the meeting of the Supreme National Council in Phnom Penh on 16 March 1992"—read by announcer]

[Text] Respected prince head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC]; Your Excellency Yasushi Akashi, special representative of the UN secretary general in Cambodia; their excellencies; ladies and gentlemen:

First of all, I would like to ask the prince head of state and SNC chairman to allow me to express on behalf of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan, and in my own name, sincere and profound admiration to the prince for the immense task he has undertaken since the victorious and historic day he returned to our Cambodia. He has tirelessly worked day and night and closely cooperated with the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia to move toward consolidating the peace process which started with the signing of the Paris agreement. All this is evidence that he is certainly the one with a role to play in reconciling and unifying the nation and ensuring national independence now and in the future so that Cambodia can prosper.

I am very happy and would like to express warmest welcome to H.E. Yasushi Akashi, special representative of the UN secretary general in Cambodia; and H.E. General John Sanderson, commander of the UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia.

Like the entire Cambodian people, we have been wanting for this unforgettable day, which is a new phase in the implementation of the Paris agreement. We firmly hope that the military and civilian forces of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] will be deployed throughout Cambodia in the near future as planned. In this spirit, we are very glad to welcome the two battalions from Indonesia and Malaysia.

The PDK, like other parties of the Cambodian national resistance forces, have always provided assistance and support to the correct and just stance of the prince head of state and SNC chairman concerning the most important role of the United Nations in the implementation of the peace agreement in Cambodia. Cambodia is a small and weak country and has been the victim of foreign aggression; the world is well aware of this. The Cambodian people have always firmly believed in the United Nations and the UN Charter. Some people have vehemently opposed the United Nations, particularly any role for the UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia. On the contrary, the PDK has always and consistently assisted and supported the correct stance of the prince head of state and SNC chairman.

When the Paris agreement was achieved, the Cambodian people were very happy. Like the entire Cambodian people, we now think that national reconciliation can be built and expanded, particularly when foreign troops are all withdrawn from Cambodia under UN control. We have widely disseminated the Paris agreement and explained to the people that Cambodia is now entering a new phase, that of peace, freedom, and national reconstruction. We have educated Army units to understand various procedures concerning the gathering, cantonment, disarming, and dissolution of troops. When the United Nations dispatched fact-finding missions to Cambodia before and after the Paris agreement, particularly after the Paris agreement, we made efforts to provide full and sincere cooperation. The PDK is one party which has provided all confidential information concerning the strength of troops and their weapons and positions, stocks of weapons and ammunition, and mine maps. We have provided all necessary information for the implementation of Annex 2 of the Paris agreement.

However, many incidents following the signing of the Paris agreement have confirmed that there are still serious obstacles to overcome. People still remember the 27 November 1991 incident in which H.E. Khieu Samphan and my house were attacked. On the battlefield, fighting continues to this day. There have been cease-fire violations. A UN helicopter was fired on. Apart from this, assassination attempts have been made. All these are obstacles to the implementation of the Paris agreement. However, due to the wisdom and will of the prince head of state and SNC chairman to solve the problem comprehensively in accordance with the Paris agreement, these obstacles have been successively overcome. Despite these serious obstacles, we still firmly believe in the United Nations and the UN representative to maintain peace in Cambodia. The PDK persistently and firmly adheres to the Paris agreement. The PDK holds the unswerving belief that only by implementing the agreement correctly from beginning to end can peace, security, and stability be restored and can there be national reconciliation within the framework of an independent Cambodia with its territorial integrity, liberal democratic regime, many parties, and respect for human rights.

It is with this firm belief that I would like to ask for permission to make the following firm proposals:

1. Most quickly determine the second phase of the cease-fire so that effective measures can be taken to ensure a genuine cease-fire throughout the country.

2. Immediately after the announcement of the cease-fire's second phase, effective measures in accordance with Article 6 of Annex 2 of the Paris agreement should be taken to ensure that all types of foreign forces are withdrawn from Cambodia and that these foreign forces do not return to Cambodia by setting up sufficient numbers of checkposts in Phnom Penh, along the eastern and western borders, and inside Cambodia. At these checkpoints, representatives of all Cambodian parties should be included to take part in the control constantly.

3. All Cambodian parties' troops should be disarmed and dissolved quickly. All troops should be disarmed and dissolved in accordance with the request of the UN secretary general and Resolution 745 of the UN Security Council.

4. Ensure that the SNC can genuinely fulfill its role and mandate as the sole and legitimate source of power in Cambodia, and closely cooperate with UNTAC in accordance with the Paris agreement.

5. Immediately take necessary measures to establish a neutral political atmosphere in Phnom Penh and throughout the country, including measures to dissolve the A-3 secret police.

All these are in order for the UNTAC-organized and controlled elections in accordance with the Paris agreement to be held freely and justly. The PDK and its Armed Forces would like to once again solemnly state here that they will strive to work closely with H.E. Yasushi Akashi and his colleagues to ensure the successful implementation of the Paris agreement.

With this spirit, I would like to ask for permission to express again to the prince head of state and SNC chairman most profound gratitude and admiration for his noble and patriotic mission. I would also like to take this opportunity to express warmest congratulations to H.E. Ataul Karim, General Loridon, and all the military and civilian personnel of the UN Advance Mission in

Cambodia for the success achieved in carrying out its mission in Cambodia despite the meager means at its disposal.

Finally, I would like to express to H.E. Akashi, special representative of the UN secretary general in Cambodia; and General John Sanderson, commander of the UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia, best wishes for success in carrying out the difficult mission in Cambodia. If the mission is successfully carried out, Cambodia will have peace, security, and independence; Southeast Asia will again enjoy peace, security, and stability; and the renown and prestige of the United Nations will also be loudly praised.

Thank you.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Denies AFP Report

BK2103115592 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 21 Mar 92

["Statement by the spokesman of the State of Cambodia's Foreign Ministry"]

[Text] An AFP dispatch dated 19 March 1992, quoted family members of Yang Horn, Ung Phan's adviser, as saying that the application for a passport to seek medical treatment abroad was rejected by the Foreign Ministry.

The spokesman of the State of Cambodia's Foreign Ministry fully rejects the unfounded and erroneous report and would like to publicly specify that the Foreign Ministry never received any application for a passport from family members of Yang Horn up to 1430, 18 March 1992, when the Foreign Ministry received a verbal application without even a photograph. On the same day, at 1500, the Ministry arranged for a passport to be immediately issued to Yang Horn so that his wound could be treated in Bangkok.

Implementing the liberal democracy policy of the State of Cambodia, the Foreign Ministry has always accommodated the desire of all citizens who want to go abroad, and especially in the above case, which is a humanitarian one. The Foreign Ministry greatly regrets the death of Yang Horn.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 21 March 1992

National Security Ministry Denies Foreign Reports

BK2303061792 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 23 Mar 92

["Rejection by the National Security Ministry;" dated 23 March—read by announcer]

[Text] Recently, a number of foreign media have disseminated untrue reports on the attempted assassination of Leng Loeung, member of Son Sann's party, and the attempted assassination by clubbing near a restaurant of Yang Horn, who was specified as adviser or assistant of Ung Phan in an opposition party.

Here is the investigation by the State of Cambodia's Ministry of National Security on these incidents.

On 10 March 1992 at 1755 when traveling along Road No. 182 in Phsa Depot Ti Muoy Ward, Tuol Kouk District, a bullet hit Leng Loeung on the ear lobe and scraped the back of his neck. According to the preliminary report by the National Security Ministry, this case is an accident caused by the illegal firing by an unidentified person in front of house No. 197 ABE-0, group 17, Phsa Depo Ti Muoy Ward, Tuol Kouk District, along road No. 182. The bullet hit a wall across the street; ricocheted and hit a man named (Van Seua), aged 24, a worker of the Communications Ministry's Transport Company, who was cycling in the opposite direction of Leng Loeung and then hit the latter. The bullet dropped near the place where Leng Loeung fell from the motorcycle.

The National Security is gathering further evidence and continues to look for the offender.

The second incident: On the night of 15 March 1992, Yang Horn and a number of friends were dining at Neak Poan Restaurant along Acha Mean Boulevard in O Russei Ti Bei Ward, 7 January District. At 2110, Yang Horn came out from the restaurant and while crossing the road was hit by a motorcycle ridden by (Dom Chanthol), who is staying in house No. 48, group 54, road No. 336, Veal Vong Ward, 7 January District. He was going very fast with his wife on the back seat and, through carelessness, hit Yang Horn whose head forcefully hit the road surface and who fell unconscious. Those riding the motorcycle also fell down and were seriously injured.

Traffic police immediately sent Yang Horn to Calmette Hospital to save him. Those on the motorcycle were also sent to the hospital. Due to the seriousness of his injury, doctors could not save Yang Horn who died at 1000 on 19 March 1992. Yang Horn was 50 years old; he was a former office deputy chief of the Communications, Transport, and Posts Ministry, and current chairman of Khmer Union Hotel.

The National Security Mnistry fully rejects the exaggeration by a number of foreign media aimed at putting the blame on the State of Cambodia alone. This is not the first case. This has happened many times since the agreement and has been exaggerated into terrorist acts. Various accidental events have been made into political terrorist activities to accuse the local police force, which is the sole force in the transitional period and with a heavy burden to maintain stability, security, and order in society. Such acts are aimed at creating an atmosphere of mistrust, instability, and insecurity in society and the nation to hinder the Paris peace agreement.

The State of Cambodia's National Security Ministry will continue to be patient to create a neutral atmosphere and appeals to the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia to cooperate with the police to investigate and check activities aimed at hindering implementation of the agreement. The National Security Ministry most vehemently denounces all political terrorist activities; these acts will be punished by the State of Cambodia's laws.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 23 March 1992

Government Asks UN To Send Troops to Border

BK2103011792 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Mar 92 p A2

[Text] The Phnom Penh government has asked the United Nations to send troops to a border town to prevent military action by the Khmer Rouge, an aide to Prime Minister Hun Sen said last night.

The aide, who asked not to be identified, said peacekeepers from the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia should be stationed in Samrong at the Thai-Cambodian border, where Phnom Penh elite troops are also stationed.

He said that during a meeting on Thursday of the joint military mission, Phnom Penh representatives urged Untac to order the Khmer Rouge to pull out its troops from Kompong Thom town, part of which the communist guerrillas have captured.

He said the Khmer Rouge was expected to attack nearby Samrong in the near future to capture the town and drive out the Phnom Penh troops.

"We need to have Untac troops in Samrong as soon as possible," he said.

Prime Minister Hun Sen was in Bangkok yesterday for a five-hour stopover on his way to Japan and the United States.

Article Views Khmer Rouge Stalling Peace Process

BK2203044592 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 21 Mar 92

[PRACHEACHON article: "The Khmer Rouge Want To Return to the Past;" date not given]

[Text] Peace is definitely very valuable to mankind. It is irreplaceable.

All Cambodians who (?suffered in) the war of aggression for over 20 years have always hoped for and dreamed of getting a genuine peace which is gradually returning after the signing of the agreement in Paris on 23 October 1991.

But now, this hope of our Cambodian people has been replaced by worry because the Khmer Rouge have violated the Paris agreement, thus delaying the process toward peace.

The Khmer Rouge have resorted to the old, deceitful trick by launching slanderous propaganda about their so-called continued presence of the Vietnamese troops in Cambodia as a pretext for them to violate the Paris agreement. Such a claim by the Khmer Rouge is totally untrue.

General Michel Loridon, commander of the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cambodia, told AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE] on (?12) March that the presence of large Vietnamese Army units in Cambodia was unlikely. He did not believe the possibility that the Phnom Penh government still had Vietnamese military advisers.

Richard Solomon, U.S. assistant secretary of state, who recently visited Cambodia said that we had not received any proof that Vietnam had not supported the UN peace process in Cambodia.

Therefore, was it true that the Vietnamese [words indistinct]. Vietnam was among the 14 countries that signed the Paris peace agreement on 23 October 1991.

Also at a recent ceremony to release 91 political prisoners, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, pointed out that all problems were originated by the Khmer Rouge.

On 14 March, the Khmer Rouge blew up O Pou bridge on Route 12 bordering Rovieng District of Preah Vihear Province and [words indistinct] Kompong Thom Province, blocking traffic (?there). On the same day, the Khmer Rouge blew up two other bridges on Route 12.

The Khmer Rouge have committed violations earlier in various other localities.

These concrete acts by the Khmer Rouge clearly show the foreigners and Cambodian people that while Cambodia is moving toward peace, the Khmer Rouge want to return Cambodia to the past, plunging it into the abyss of past catastrophe.

Indonesia

Military: 'No Intention' To Close Off E. Timor

BK2103153492 Hong Kong AFP in English 0913 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Jakarta, March 21 (AFP)—A top-ranking armed forces planner has said here that the Indonesian military has no intention of closing the former Portuguese colony of East Timor to the outside world.

"There is not the slightest intention of ABRI (the Indonesian armed forces) to close East Timor," Air Vice-Marshal Tedy Rusdy Hayuni told foreign correspondents here late Friday [20 March].

East Timor, which Jakarta unilaterally declared its 27th province in 1976, had been closed to persons not holding security clearances from Indonesian authorities until January 1989.

Following a bloody shooting by the Indonesian Armed Forces in the capital, Dili, on November 12, which led to the death of scores of civilians, many officials and prominent Indonesians have called on Jakarta to close East Timor again.

Rusdy, the armed forces' chief planner, said although the military had no intention of closing East Timor, some restrictive measures were needed there until "things are smooth [enough] that no outside intrusion tickles and triggers them (the East Timorese) and adds fuel."

The government has since last month denied foreign journalists, including those based in Jakarta, to process their applications to visit East Timor.

Jakarta has blamed the Dili shooting on remnants of the East Timorese pro-independence movement Fretilin, here and abroad, which it said had incited some of the local population to unrest.

The United Nations continues to regard Portugal as the administering power in East Timor.

Murdani: E. Timor Tragedy Not Caused by Army

BK2003115692 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 11 Mar 92 p 1

[Excerpt] JAKARTA POST (JP)—Minister of Defense and Security L.B. Murdani says that the armed forces (ABRI) was not involved in the development of East Timor in the run up to the November 12 tragedy in Dili.

"The tragedy was not caused by ABRI, my brothers, but after things got out of hand it was ABRI, again, which was asked to settle the matter," Murdani said in response to a question posed at a hearing here yesterday with members of the DPR (House of Representatives). He was echoing a statement he made earlier this month.

Reiterating the statement he made when he spoke to leading economists on March 3, Murdani said sectional planning was to blame for the form of development that took in the former Portuguese colony which integrated into Indonesia in 1976.

Citing an example, he said one of the first civil servants sent to the predominantly Catholic province was an official from the Religious Affairs Ministry who was to serve as the provincial head for Islamic affairs.

"There is nothing wrong in that. But we could have done things better," he said. "Such a thing might create misperceptions."

"There are people who are quick to credit themselves in cases where development has been successfully carried out, but they are quick to seek the help of ABRI if things go wrong."

Ever since the Tanjung Priok incident, ABRI had been charged with opening fire on people, he said. The Tanjung Priok incident occurred in 1984 in Jakarta's port area when troops clashed with Moslem demonstrators.

"But what about the Tampomas ship disaster and the Bintaro (Jakarta) train accident which killed hundreds of people?" he asked. The Tampomas passenger ship went down near Masalembo island in Java Sea after it caught fire.

"However, ABRI understands this reality," he told members of Commission I which deals with security matters.

ABRI has sacked two of its generals following the November 12 tragedy, he said.

Citing another example, he said, East Timor province had been linked to the world through international telephone connections through the development program, but these facilities were being exploited by the separatists to make contacts with their colleagues abroad.

Murdani asked DPR members to review his statement made in June 1988, when he made it clear that should the province be opened up, ABRI would not take any responsibility for the consequences.

He said there were people who took pride in the fact that they had financed East Timorese students to study in Jakarta.

"But they forget that for East Timorese, travelling to Jakarta alone would be a cultural shock," he said.

Murdani said the people in the province had only recently got their freedom and so they did not have the same historical references as their compariots in other provinces.

Murdani also stressed the importance of integrated planning in developing the eastern most province of Irian Jaya. [passage omitted]

Australia's Stand on E. Timor Applauded

BK2103093692 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 21 Mar 92

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial, Yogyakarta-based KEDAULATAN RAKYAT discusses Australia's support for Indonesia on the East Timor issue. This support can be seen from the remarks made by Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans during his visit to Portugal last Tuesday. At that time Evans defended his decision to recognize Indonesia's sovereignty over East Timor. During his talks with the Portuguese foreign minister in Lisbon, Gareth Evans accused Portugal of continuing to give false promises of independence to the East Timorese people.

Moreover, at a news conference in Lisbon the Australian foreign minister openly criticized Portugal for neglecting the East Timorese people for hundreds of years and urged Lisbon to ponder this unpleasant fact first before criticizing Indonesia. Gareth Evans also pointed out that during its colonial occupation of East Timor, Portugal had never built roads, schools, or hospitals. Neither had Portugal developed the economy of East Timor.

The Australian foreign minister then presented a proposal to solve the East Timor issue, namely through the holding of a roundtable conference to be attended by all groups concerned. This kind of conference is necessary in view of the special characteristics of East Timor, which is now under Indonesia's sovereignty and constitutes Indonesia's 27th province. In this connection, the Australian foreign minister's remarks and the upcoming visit to Indonesia by Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating augur well for closer relations between the two countries.

Japanese Troop Deployments Concern Minister

OW2103150292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1423 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Jakarta, March 21 KYODO—An Indonesian minister expressed concern Saturday [21 March] over the planned participation of Japanese troops in U.N. peacekeeping operations. Roestam Soeparjo, minister-coordinator for public welfare, said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE that there still is ill feeling in Indonesia over the Japanese army's invasion during World War II.

He said the concern would continue unless any deployment of Japanese troops is clearly consistent with Japan's antiwar constitution. Japan should contribute to the peace and welfare of Asia through its economic might, he said.

If Japan plays a military role commensurate with its economic power, it should make clear where it will draw the limits on its military activities, he said. Otherwise, there will be fear of how far Japan might go, based on its history, he said.

A bill that would allow overseas deployment of Japan's Self-Defense Forces to help U.N. peacekeeping activities is pending before the current Diet session.

PRC Minister Welcomes Private Sector Ventures

BK2003151192 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Text] The Chinese Minister of Machinery and Electronics Industries, He Guangyuan, welcomes a proposal from the Indonesian private sector to cooperate with China in various technological industries by setting up joint ventures.

Speaking at a dinner function hosted by the Medium and Small Scale Industries Coordination Board in Jakarta, Guangyuan said that economic and trade cooperation between the People's Republic of China and Indonesia continued to develop since the normalization of diplomatic relations between the PRC and Indonesia in 1990, adding that he is also pleased to know there are private companies from Indonesia that are interested in constructing toll roads in the PRC.

Laos

Reportage on LPRP 37th Anniversary Celebration

PASASON Editorial Pays Tribute

BK2203084192 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 22 Mar 92

[PASASON 21 March editorial: "Pay Tribute to 37th Party Founding Anniversary"]

[Text] Today, 22 March 1992, marks the 37th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP]. This event is taking place as the entire Lao people are making preparations to say farewell to the Year of the Goat and to welcome the Year of the Monkey. We are joyously celebrating the party founding anniversary and making preparations to welcome the traditional Lao new year at a time when the cause of renovation outlined by the fifth party congress has been tumultuously executed and new achievements have been won in many fields. Political stability has been firmly consolidated one more step. Business production aided development while markets have been expanding. As a result, the living conditions of the multiethnic people have been markedly improved. An unprecedentedly high level of sympathy and support have been given to us by the international community. All this has become a firm foundation for us to continue implementing the party's renovation policy in a more effective manner.

Time has changed in accordance with the law of nature. At times, both difficulties and favorable phenomena have simultaneously emerged. Likewise, each period of our revolution has been accompanied with difficulties and favorable conditions in accordance with the law of development of the revolution. But the most important thing is that once difficulties occur, we must find ways to resolve them to take the revolution forward. This is the attitude of the LPRP, which has firmly adhered to its objectives and has endeavored to fulfill the aspirations of the laboring people.

Looking back over the past three decades, the revolution in our country has run into numerous difficulties. Nonetheless, our party, led by Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, has firmly adhered to its ultimate objectives of highly increasing internal unity, strictly practicing the principle of democratic centralism, maintaining close links with the masses, upholding the spirit of independence and self-reliance, combining our own strength with the strength of the epoch, resolutely overcoming all turbulent storms to win one victory after another, and firmly taking the revolution forward.

The world situation is changing in a complicated manner at present. Socialism as a real force in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe has become bankrupt. Hostile forces have not yet abandoned their designs to destroy our new regime. The socioeconomic foundations of our country have still been plagued with numerous difficulties. Under the current circumstances, we have no other way but to continue implementing the renovation policy. Effective renovation requires many elements. One important element is upholding the spirit of independence, self-mastership, self-sufficiency, self-reliance, and a sense of practicing thrift for national construction. In the past, we maintained such a spirit. We must do likewise in the present. No one can think or work for us. We cannot simply sit idly by to wait for external gratis aid. Under the present conditions, assistance and cooperation among countries is of a reciprocal nature. Both sides must share mutual benefits. Loans are necessary and required. But loans must be paid back with interest. That is why it is now time for us to build and defend our country with our own strength.

The fifth party congress has pointed out the new direction of the renovation in our country: that is, to continue the cause of renovation in all respects, to increase the unity and oneness among the entire Lao people on the basis of the worker-peasant-intellectual-student alliance under the party leadership, to pay attention to promoting the multisectoral economy aimed at vigorously developing production forces, and to transform the natural and seminatural economy into the goods economy, to gradually improve the material and cultural life of our multiethnic people.

We should develop a correct understanding on the essense of the spirit of independence, self-mastery, and self-reliance. This spirit does not mean that we have to keep to ourselves, keep the door closed, not have relations with other people, and be narrow-minded and biased against other people. In the present era, no country can attain all-around development without broadening external cooperation and developing international solidarity and cooperation. In the past as well as in the present, while pursuing a policy of independence, self-mastery, and self-reliance, our party has always maintained close links, solidarity, and cooperation with the international community. The combining of the national strength with that of the epoch is an excellent lesson for the law of development of the Lao revolution. At present, combining these two factors is a special requirement.

Ours is a party which has been forged and tested in numerous difficult situations in carrying out the revolutionary struggle. Our people have maintained a high sense of self-reliance and humility. We dared to fight against the hostile forces who were many more times powerful than us in carrying out the national liberation and national defense tasks. Our people were gallant in overcoming all obstacles in building and defending our country. All these are favorable conditions which must be preserved and upheld, that is, to hold aloft the spirit of independence, self-mastership, and self-reliance in fulfilling the tasks of building and defending our beloved country at present.

We firmly believe that with the national and revolutionary traditions, our cause of renovation under the guidance of the LPRP will yet win new greater victories in the development of our beloved country.

Armed Forces Celebrate Event

BK2203111792 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Editorial: "Thirty-Seven Years Have Clearly Proved the Talented and Clear-Sighted Leadership of Our Party"]

[Text] Today, together with the multiethnic people throughout the country, our various Armed Forces are rejoicingly commemorating the 37th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP]—organizer and leader of the Lao revolution. The celebration of this historical day is considered very significant for the political life in our country. It constitutes a great encouragement for our party, Army, and people in carrying out the cause of consolidating, perfecting, promoting, and expanding the popular democratic system as well as the cause of defending and building the country.

The LPRP—successor of the Indochinese Communist Party—was founded following the final victory won by our multiethnic Lao people in fighting shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal Vietnamese and Cambodian Armed Forces and peoples against the colonialists. Immediately after being founded, our party was faced with the most serious trials, namely the national salvation struggle against neocolonialism. In the struggle against the two big imperialists for almost 30 years to gain independence and freedom and to completely liberate the country, our party had closely united with the multiethnic people, rallied all patriotic, revolutionary forces throughout the country, utilized all potential and overall strength of the entire nation, closely united with the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples, and drew great assistance from various socialist and friendly countries in the world. Our party has always been loyal to Marxism-Leninism and maintained a correct, creative line. It had led the Army and people throughout the country to carry out the difficult, hard, and protracted, but honorable and very glorious struggle. Under the party's leadership, our Army and people have overcome all difficulties and various trials, defeated the imperialist aggressors and their henchmen, overthrown the rotten feudalist system, accomplished the national-democratic revolution, completely liberated the country, and led the nation to march forward a new era—an era of building and securely defending the country.

The historic victories won in the two periods of the national salvation struggle against the two imperialist aggressors for almost 30 years, together with the great, all-round achievements scored in the 16 years of the said defense and construction of the country, have clearly proved the talented and clear-sighted leadership of our party. Our party, having accomplished the historic task and being currently carrying out more historic tasks, will further lead the Lao nation to march forward in a very honorable and glorious manner.

On the occasion of the historical day, 22 March—the 37th founding anniversary of the party this year, let our entire party, Army, and people together recall the patriotic and revolutionary traditions, in particular the traditions of heroic, stalwart, and undaunted struggle and the glorious victory won under the party's leadership. Elated and proud over the great success, jubilant over the precious traditions of revolutionary struggle of our party and people, let us study and profoundly understand the situation and political tasks of the party as stipulated in the resolution of the fifth party congress and the resolution of the fourth plenary session of the fifth party Central Committee, promote and expand the patriotic spirit and spirit of cherishing the new system, strive to compete in fulfilling the tasks, enhance the solidarity between the Army and the people on the basis of the alliance of workers, farmers, educated students, and intellectuals under the party's leadership, and further strengthen the international solidarity and the special Lao-Vietnamese-Cambodian solidarity. Though the immediate situation remains to be difficult and complicated, and despite that the cause of defending and building the country remains to be so heavy that it is necessary for us to make an endeavor, concentrate all energy, and put great investment to develop the country, our Army and people, being totally confident in the vigorous and intelligent leadership of the party and with the party's noble ideals of having everything for the national interests, everything for the prosperity and happiness of the people, and everything for the prosperity of the country, will certainly achieve a glorious success.

Various Activities Mark Anniversary

BK2303063992 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Over 400 members of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, secretaries of provincial party organizations, senior cadres, pensioners, and intellectuals from ministries and agencies attended the get-together to mark the 37th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party organized by the party Central Committee in Vientiane on the afternoon of 22 March.

On behalf of the party Central Committee, Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, addressed the gathering.

First of all, he extended greetings to senior cadres, pensioners, and intellectuals in all sectors and praised their past contribution to the causes of national liberation, national defense, and national construction. Raising a question regarding the impact of the confusing international situation, the party leadership, and the Lao revolution, he said that the Lao revolution is in its new era of establishing and strengthening the right to mastery of the multiethnic people in all spheres of work. The people are gaining full control of the economy step by step in line with the resolution of the fifth party congress, which stipulates that production force must be gradually expanded to develop industry. Economic development must be bound to national defense and maintenance of peace and order while efforts must be made to attract assistance from the international community to build a peaceful, independent, democratic, unified, and prosperous Laos.

On the morning of the same day, members of the party Central Committee Political Bureau including Nouhak Phoumsavan, Khamtai Siphandon, Saman Vignaket, Thongsing Thammavong, Choummali Sai-gnason, Oudom Khatthi-ga also laid wreaths at the Monument of the Unknown Combatants to pay tribute to cadres and combatants who have sacrificed their lives for the cause of the nation and people.

On the same morning, the party organization and administrative committee of Vientiane Municipality organized a rally to mark the party's founding anniversary at Vientiane Theater. More than 1,000 party members, cadres, and residents of Vientiane attended the function. Oudom Khatthi-nga, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the municipality's party committee, addressed the meeting. He praised the LPRP leadership during the past 37 years and expressed gratitude to the party for its role in leading the Lao people in the entire country to win new victories in each revolutionary period and implement the two strategic tasks. He praised party cadres and members attached to various organizations and offices in all districts of the municipality for their good example in successfully implementing the party's policies. These achievements have proved the solidarity in the entire party and people which has contributed much to the development of Vientiane.

On 21 March many ministries, offices, organizations, and military units also organized the celebration of the party anniversary and held meetings to review the performance of their party units.

On the nights of 21 and 22 March, the Information and Culture Ministry also organized a drama show at the theater and an acrobatic show at the Lao-Soviet Stadium. Other activities during the celebration included sports contests at Vientiane National Stadium. On the morning of 22 March, 183 cyclists entered the race from the starting point at the monument to [words indistinct] Nam Ngum. Fifty cyclists were selected for this year's May Day race.

Seminar on Marxism-Leninism Held

BK2103130592 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Text] On the occasion of the 37th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP], 22 March, and the 122d birth anniversary of Lenin, [22 April], authorized and guided by the Propaganda and Training Board of the LPRP Central Committee, the editorial staff of ALOUN MAI journal organized a scientific seminar under the title "Lenin and our party's restructuring cause" at a meeting hall of the office of the Propaganda and Training Board of the Party Central Committee on 17 and 18 March. The seminar was attended by more than 50 leading cadres and social science researchers.

In this two-day seminar, the participants discussed the basic truths of the Marxist-Leninist theories regarding new types of economic production, social order and security, state power, mother and child, youths, workers, education and training of party members and cadres, ethnic minorities, mass mobilization, mass media apparatuses, study of revolutionary doctrines, and cultural work.

Through the seminar, the correctness and truthfulness of Marxism-Leninism, in particular the basic, general principles of Marxism-Leninism in each field, have been reiterated. Following the seminar, the cadres have further profoundly understood and firmly grasped the line of our party, which has creatively applied Marxism-Leninism in relation to the practical conditions of our country, especially in relation to the practical conditions concerned with the cause of restructuring in our party.

Somlat Chanthamat, Political Bureau member and head of the Propaganda and Training Board of the LPRP Central Committee, also delivered a speech addressing the seminar. In his address, he noted the line and policies of our party, which have always adhered to Marxism-Leninism. He also reiterated the correctness and truthfulness of Marxism-Leninism, which has been creatively and appropriately applied by our party in conformity with the restructuring period in our country. In conclusion, Somlat Chanthamat gave suggestions on certain forms and methods of fruitfully translating into reality the contents and spirit of the seminar in each office and each unit as well as in various branches of work.

Meeting Held With Malaysian Industry Delegation

BK2003115892 Vientiane KPL in English 0919 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Text] Vientiane, March 20 (KPL)—A meeting between Lao and Malaysian delegations of industries was held here yesterday.

The Lao side headed by Mr. Soulivong Daravong, minister of industry and handicrafts and Mr. Kham-ouan Boupha, deputy minister of agriculture and forestry, included some Lao businessmen. While the visiting Malaysian delegation headed by Datuk Sri Dr. Lim Keng Yaik, minister of primary industries consisted of 30 officials and businessmen.

The objectives of the Malaysian mission here were to promote trade and investment in the commodity sector in particular rubber, timber, minerals, and vegetable oil, to foster and strengthen relations with government ministries and agencies, trade and other related organizations in Laos, to discuss issues and problems on commodity trade and investment on commodities, and to enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of commodities.

During the meeting, the Lao side informed the Malaysian guests of the line and policy of the Lao Government on the promotion of foreign investment in such fields as industries, trade rpt industries [as received], trade, forestry.

The Malaysian delegation, the largest in its composition of state and private sectors ever visiting Laos over many years, is on a current visit to the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] during 19-22 March, 1992.

In addition to the strengthening of the friendly ties and solidarity between the two governments and people, the visit is also to collect information on possibilities of investment by Malaysian businessmen in Laos, in particular in rubber plantation, forestry industry, forestry produce, minerals, vegetable oil, as well as the trade between Laos and Malaysia.

Bilateral Ties Discussed

BK2203083192 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] This afternoon, Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister and minister of economy, planning, and finance, received in Vientiane Dr. Lim Keng Yaik, minister of primary industries of Malaysia, and a 30-member delegation, which is currently on an official visit to Laos. The Malaysian delegation is scheduled to stay in Laos from 19 to 22 March.

On this occasion, the deputy prime minister and the guest exchanged views on many issues in a straightforward manner. They particularly discussed bilateral relations and economic cooperation—the issue of common interest. The deputy prime minister also wished the Malaysian delegation success in the visit to Laos to contribute to expanding cooperation in economic and other fields between the two countries in the immediate future and on the long-term basis for the benefits of the two peoples of Laos and Malaysia.

A further report said that prior to paying the courtesy call on Khamphoui Keoboualapha, on the morning of the same day Dr. Lim Keng Yaik and the Malaysian industry delegation also separately called on Sisavat Keobounphan, minister of agriculture and forestry, and Phao Bounnaphon, minister of foreign trade and economic relations. In each meeting, the two sides discussed in depth bilateral relations and cooperation in the economic and trade field, in particular the problem of encouraging and motivating Malaysian businessmen to make investments in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, particularly investments in the industrial, agricultural, forestry, and trade spheres.

Following the meetings, the two sides agreed to cooperate in putting into actual practice the said investments in an effective and fruitful manner.

Philippines

Navy Arrests Chinese Fishermen in Spratlys

HK2303111292 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0948 GMT 23 Mar 92

[By Rodney Jaleco]

[Text] According to a report received by Navy Chief Rear Admiral Mariano Dumancas Jr., the Philippine Navy has arrested seven fishermen from the People's Republic of China near a restricted area in the Spratly Islands. The fishermen were reportedly fishing with poisonous cyanide about 500 meters off Pagasa Island, the biggest island in the Spratlys group occupied by the Philippines. The Navy confiscated two fishing boats and 200 kg of sodium cyanide the fishermen planned to use. (Sit Chu-chai), (See Tsu-wan), (See Siu-chit), (Gao Dingzhang), (Zhou Zhongzou), (Mai Sin-sin), and (Chan Jong-chuang) were arrested. They were brought to the Naval District Force office in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, where they are to be turned over to the Commission on Immigration and Deportation. Dumancas said he will file charges of illegal entry and illegal fishing against the Chinese fishermen. Tactical interrogation revealed that the fishermen left Hainan, China on 10 March and arrived in the Spratly Islands four days later.

Manila To Counter 'Unfair' PRC Trade Practices

HK2303061292 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 23 Mar 92 pp 1, 6

[Text] In its most dramatic backlash yet against the People's Republic of China and three other Socialist, non-GATT member nations for unfair trade practices, the Philippine Government said it is unilaterally adopting drastic emergency measures that could reverse several years of liberal trading policies and make it more difficult for the four, particularly China, to do business here unless countersteps are taken by them to immediately address the problem.

Both importers and exporters are still divided as to whether the move is good or bad at a time when the Philippines' trade protocol with China is trembling in the balance amid the former's recent move to protect Taiwan's investments here via an Investment Guarantee Pact.

Regardless of their opinion, though, government is unflinching in its overall approach.

At issue here is China's still insidious refusal to open its market to Philippine goods even after having signed a trade agreement with the Philippines four years ago which required local importers to China to match their purchases with the same amount of exports to be absorbed in full by China-based importers.

The government is also seeking a similar trade balancing agreement with four other countries—Vietnam, North Korea, Bulgaria, and Burma.

"China cannot just continue to rape and rape us. We have been very naive in our trade negotiations with them in the past and all we got is a chronic trade imbalance," Philippine International Trading Corp. (PITC) president Jose Luis Yulo said in a meeting with importers.

He added: "They export here but they do not want to buy our goods. All we are saying here is if they do not open their markets once and for all, we will be forced to close our markets, too. We are, in effect, exerting political pressure, here."

Mr. Yulo said the government is scheduling negotiations with the Chinese government for reciprocal market access; investment and technological transfer and joint ventures for production in the Philippines; and intensify buying and selling missions and other sales activities here.

While these had been raised by the Philippines, through the PITC in the past, nothing much has been done on the Chinese Government's end prompting PITC to use the "carrot and stick" method in forcing PROC to open its market.

Under the present system, only 20% of the Philippine total imports from China is subjected to reciprocal trade balance. This more lenient approach by the government resulted in a trade imbalance with China amounting to $2.32 billion from 1979 to 1990.

The amendment to the trade balancing protocol of 1989 lifts the government's import ban against blacklisted importers who were unable to fulfill their undertakings to counter export or use their respective export credits.

"Before April 15, they can file with us or choose the first two options, wipe clean and import again. We are giving importers another chance to make good this time," Mr. Yulo added.

In filing with the PITC, importers would only have to pay minimal fees to reimburse PITC for its counter export development costs in the endeavor as follows: essential products except soya products, 0.5% of total value of imports applied for; semi-essentials, 1%; others, 1.5%, and; soya products, $1 per metric ton applied for.

Mr. Yulo lamented that while China has earned so much dollars in the past due to its restrictive trade policies and is, at the same time, free to hold trade missions here," the Philippines cannot promote its products there unless permitted by the PROC government which we are normally not allowed to."

Despite these, Mr. Yulo hopes the issue would eventually end in harmony. Despite the continuing Philippine trade deficit with China, records reveal that Philippine imports have dropped by 27% coupled with a 23% increase in exports although no new products since 1989 had been able to enter the PROC shores.

He cited four reasons for this market access difficulty: imports to China are restricted by the government and unless foreign exchange is allocated by the government, it is virtually impossible to export; all Chinese companies engaged in international trade are government owned; China's production costs are in many instances subsidized so that their products are artificially priced making fair competition impossible; and China restricts promotional activities.

Japan Gives Assurances of Continued Aid

HK2303030892 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 Mar 92 p 1

[By Fil C. Sionil]

[Text] Japanese Ambassador to Manila Toshio Goto assured the Philippines of continued assistance to sustain the development momentum now under way.

But he noted that policy disagreements between the Executive and Legislative branches have cast doubt on the Aquino administration's ability to manage the economy.

Goto conveyed his observations during the recently concluded Philippine Assistance Program consultative meeting in Hong Kong.

According to Goto, these policy conflicts at the highest levels of the Philippine government have hampered structural reforms needed to boost the national economy.

"We are aware of some cases where the government could not implement its policy because of disagreement between the administration and the Congress," he said.

Although Goto did not enumerate instances of policy stalemate, he might have been referring, among others, to the "war of words" the administration and the Congress over tax reform measures endorsed by Malacanang and which had earlier been committed to the foreign bank and multilateral creditors.

In assuring the Philippine government of continued Japanese assistance, Goto recalled that last year, Japan pledged some 120.4 billion yen or $930 million under the 17th yen loan package, which is more than double the 13th yen loan of 49.5 billion yen in 1985.

However, Goto strongly urged that the next administration and the Philippine people as a whole will make and continue efforts to keep the economic stabilization and structural reforms in the right direction under the democratic system created by the Aquino administration.

Government Trims Foreign Loans to $600 Million

HK2303080392 Quezon City MALAYA in English 23 Mar 92 p 9

[By Dinna M. Chan]

[Text] The government has decided to scale down the $1 billion it initially wants to borrow from four creditors and will instead start negotiating for $600 million with the World Bank and Japan.

The loan is linked to structural reforms in foreign exchange, foreign investments and import restrictions, Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao said over the weekend.

Of the total amount, $300 million will come from the World Bank. The rest will come from Japan, traditionally the biggest source of concessional funds for the country.

Part of the loan will be used as enhancements for the $2-billion debt relief deal covering $5 billion of the country's total commercial debt stock.

Estanislao at first wanted a $1 billion "jumbo" loan from the two plus the International Monetary Fund and the Asian Development Bank [ADB]. The ADB, which had earlier committed to give $100 million, premised the loan to a broader range of reforms including the unification of the country's two stock exchanges. The IMF meanwhile said the $200 million it had earlier committed should be used solely for debt-relief.

Finance officials said that the World Bank had already approved in principle the $300 million loan to the Philippines as early as last month.

Estanislao said it is important to finish negotiations for the loan package before the end of the Aquino government. Economic officials have committed to implement the debt deal with the commercial banks by June. Part of the loan will be used to buy American treasury zero coupon bonds.

The treasury bonds will be used as collateral to a new issue of government bonds.

Meanwhile, Central Bank governor Jose Cuisia, Jr. said that the rollback of power rates for the National Power Corp. [NPC] could mean the derailment of the ongoing economic stabilization program with the IMF.

Cuisia said that while the mission which conducted the second performance review of the Philippines under the program has already expressed satisfaction with adherance to fiscal and monetary targets for the first two-and-a-half months of 1992, the mission's findings will be submitted to the Fund executive board by April yet.

"A lot of things could happen before that," Cuisia warned.

Last week, the Fund mission expressed displeasure about a report that the energy regulatory board would roll back fuel oil or bunker prices by 66 centavos within the month. This move will result in the forced rollback of power rates by NPC. The power committed to the World Bank a return on rate of base of six percent for 1992.

For the next year, the RORB [expansion unknown] target under the World Bank-NPC covenant is eight percent.

Failure to adhere to this financial covenant can result not only in the suspension of the IMF program but also the cutting off of all external assistance flows to NPC and the suspension of energy and power-related loans from official creditors.

Thailand

Official General Election Results Announced

BK2303034092 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0303 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] The Interior Ministry has officially summarized the results of the 22 March general election at 0630 today. The Samakkhi Tham Party has won the largest number of members of Parliament with 79, while four parties have not won any seats at all. Anan Anantakun, permanent secretary of the Interior Ministry, gave a news conference on the results of the general election:

[Begin Anantakun recording] The results of the general election can be summarized as follows: The Samakkhi Tham Party won 79 seats; Chat Thai Party 74; New Aspiration Party 72; Democrat Party 44; Palang Dharma Party 41; Social Action Party 31; Prachakon Thai Party 7; Solidarity Party 6; Ratsadon Party 4; Muanchon Party 1; Puangchon Chaothai Party 1; making a grand total of 360 seats. The political parties that did not win any seats are the Kaset Seri Party; Thongthin Kaona; Ruam Phalang Mai; and Saha Prachathipatai. [end recording]

Polls Indicate Samakkhi Tham Probable Winner

BK2103022792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Mar 92 p 1

[Text] The Samakkhi Tham Party (STP) is tipped to win most seats nationwide, according to two separate polls—one conducted by the Referendum and Election Study Centre of the Faculty of Political Science of Chulalongkon University and the other by the Interior ministry.

The Chulalongkon poll shows the STP winning 87 seats—one more than the 86 seats predicted by the ministry's survey.

The ministry's poll places Chat Thai second with 81 seats, but the university survey puts New Aspiration [NAP] second with the possibility it may edge out the the STP.

The Chulalongkon poll shows that the Phalang Tham Party [POP] is most likely to win at least 22 of the 35 seats at stake in Bangkok's 12 constituencies.

A breakdown of STP seats, according to the Interior poll, is as follows: 16 seats in the Central Plains, 26 in the North, 38 in the Northeast and six in the South.

According to the same poll, most of the seats to be won by Chat Thai will be in the Central Plains - 43—with 14 in the North, 21 in the Northeast and three in the South.

The NAP is likely to come third with 75 seats. Of these, one will be in Bangkok, seven in the Central Plains, 14 in the North, 38 in the Northeast and 15 in the South.

The Democrats will get 34. Of these, three will be in Bangkok, two in the Central Plains, five in the north, seven in the Northeast and 17 in the South.

Prachakon Thai's [PTP] seats are likely to dwindle to 22, comprising 16 in Bangkok, five and one in Central Plains and the North respectively.

The poll gives Phalang Tham 19 seats, of which 14 will be in Bangkok, one in the Central Plains, two in the North and one each in northeastern and southern regions.

Solidarity is likely to win eight seats, comprising three in the Central Plains, two each in the North and South and one in the Northeast.

Three seats are predicted for Ratsadon, with one in the North and two in the Northeast.

Muang Chon will get two, one in Bangkok and another in the Northeast, according to the Interior poll.

Dr Ponsak Phongpaew, a co-organiser of the poll, told a Press conference yesterday that there appear good prospects of the NAP beating Samakkhi Tham in the election to become the "core" party in the formation of the next government.

The Chulalongkon poll puts the NAP second with two seats fewer than the STP's 87 nationwide.

The nationwide results of the poll are as follows: STP, 87; NAP, 85; Chat Thai, 67; Democrats, 32; Phalang Tham 29; Social Action, 27; Prachakon Thai, 19; Solidarity, 9; Ratsadon, 3; and one each for Muan Chon and Puang Chon Chao Thai.

The Bangkok results are as follows: Phalang Tham, 22; Prachakon Thai, 12; and one for the Democrats.

Dr Ponsak said the poll has a five percent error margin.

He maintained the poll is unbiased and not intended to benefit or disadvantage any parties.

It is intended to institutionalise the poll surveys, he said, adding that the centre will, in future, conduct random polls on other issues of national importance to prevent some elements from claiming that they have the support of the people on certain issues.

Dr Ponsak's colleague, Dr Chaisit Chaloemmeprasoet, said the poll results from Bangkok are based on findings from 2,400 samples distributed to various groups whose votes are decisive.

The poll results of each constituency in Bangkok are as follows:

—Constituency 1. The three seats will be split among the PDP [Palang Dharma Party] and Prachakon Thai with Samak Suntharawet of the PTP and Col Winai Somphong of PDP apparently sure to win. The last seat is a close fight between Wichit Saengthong of the PDP and Mrs Lalita Rueksamran of the PTP.

—Constituency 2. There is a high trend pointing to the PDP, led by Chamlong Simuang, making a clean sweep. Dr Chaisit said most voters in this constituency are likely to vote for a party slate because they support Chamlong and the party. The qualifications of individual candidates are a secondary priority.

—Constituency 3. The PDP will win most likely win two seats. The other seat will be challenged for by PTP candidate San Sathirabut.

—Constituency 4. The PTP has a chance of winning two seats with the other going to the PDP.

—Constituency 5. The PDP is most likely to take all three seats.

—Constituency 6. The PDP is likely to win two seats with one going to the Democrats.

—Constituency 7. The PDP has a good chance of winning all three seats, but Mrs Yoenchit Rapiphat na Ayutthaya of the PTP may be able to squeeze in.

—Constituency 8. The PDP is tipped to take both seats. But Democrat candidate pramot Sukhum is not completely ruled out.

—Constituency 9. This will be a close fight between the PDP and PTP.

—Constituency 10. The PDP is favoured to win but the PTP may take a seat.

—Constituency 11. The PDP is favoured to take all three seats.

—Constituency 12. A neck-to-neck battle between the PTP and the PDP.

Anan Addresses Meeting of Legislative Assembly

BK2003161392 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Statement by Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun addressing the final meeting of the National Legislative Assembly at Parliament Building on 20 Mar—recorded]

[Text] With full backing from the honorable members of this assembly, the government has performed its duties solving problems for the people, including farmers and the less fortunate people. The government has laid down foundations for the development of the country. It has implemented measures on income distribution, improved taxation, and decentralized political administrative authority. It has taken steps to promote economic liberalization and enhanced economic stability, thus preserving national pride and lifting the standard of economic system in the eyes of international community. The government will finally organize a general election on 22 March which should be honest and fair.

Over the past year, the government has implemented the policies on the administration of the country by strictly adhering to the pledges it gave to this National Legislative Assembly. The government has never strayed from its stated policies. I will not go into the details concerning the government's achievements. Several measures taken have already produced evident results, whereas some other measures were meant for long-term improvement of national administration. Although no immediate results have been achieved from the long-term projects, they will serve as a groundwork for national administration, in laying a firm and smooth foundation for the country's development in the interests of the general people.

The government realized that a lot of work has been carried out through sessions with the National Legislative Assembly. The government has proposed nearly 300 draft bills for consideration by the assembly. The president and all members of this assembly have made strenuous efforts in order to execute their work by holding sessions for deliberation on and passage of those bills until their promulgation into law. I and my colleagues in the cabinet must sincerely say here that we appreciate the full cooperation we have had from all of you. The government once again thanks the president and members of this assembly. All of your suggestions concerning the bills have been passed to all concerned authorities by the respective cabinet ministers, and they should be considered as guidelines to be strictly followed.

Respected president and members of the National Legislative Assembly: today is the last sitting of the National Legislative Assembly. My government is also terminating its activities soon. The accomplishments of this honorable assembly and government will be part of Thailand's political history. Although they are not the elected representatives of the people, the members of this assembly and government have done their duties with full conscience, by adhering to their personal virtues, and have been empowered by the glory of the king, who has bestowed to them his trust by appointing them to such honorable positions. I would like to proudly say on your behalf that we have done our duties to the best of our abilities. We have performed our duties with honesty. We have performed our duties in the service of the Thai people with a clear conscience. I hope that after the term of this assembly and government, there will be a development of a genuinely democratic system in Thailand. I feel that it is the duty and task of every Thai to make this aspiration come true. A democratic system of government should not concern only political activities, but should entail all mechanisms and consciences profound enough to reach out to the Thai of all walks of life, in economic, cultural, as well as social responsibilities.

On behalf of the government, I would like to thank the president and members of the National Legislative Assembly, its staff and officials, for the full cooperation given to us throughout our tenure. I pray to the powers of Lord Buddha, his teaching, and the monks, as well as to all sacred deities in the world to give you protection, prosperity, and happiness, so that you can be a strength for the development of our beloved country.

Royal Appointment of Senators

BK2203100892 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0800 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Announcement on appointment of senators]

[Text] His Royal Signature: King Phumiphon Adunyadet

His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet graciously decrees the appointment of the following members of the senate per articles 94 and 217 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand of 1991:

1. Air Chief Marshal [ACM] Kamon Dechatungkha
2. Major General Kamon Sakun
3. Konphot Atsawinwichit
4. Krit Rattanarak
5. ACM Kan Phimanthip
6. Lieutenant General Kitti Rattanachaya
7. ACM Kaset Rotchananin
8. Kasem Narongdet
9. ACM Kasem Thawiwat
10. Vice Admiral Kasemsak Phrombut
11. Vice Admiral Kolak Charoenruk
12. Air Marshal Kiattisak Thepkunchon
13. Komen Phattharaphirom
14. Kowit Woraphiphat
15. Kowit Suratsawadi
16. Lieutenant General Khachon Ramanwong
17. Khunthong Thiangtrong
18. Major Khlai Nawaphan
19. Khosit Panpiamrat
20. General Charan Kunlawanit
21. Lieutenant General Charin Sawangwan
22. Air Chief Marshal Chanya Sukhonthasap
23. Rear Admiral Chumphon Hongthong
24. Charat Suwanwela
25. General Charun Phunsanong
26. Chattawa Klinsunthon
27. General Chamlaeng Uchukomon
28. Chirayut Wasurat
29. Charoen Siriwatthanaphakdi
30. Charoenchit Na Songkhla
31. Air Chief Marshal Chaloei Warintharakhom
32. Rear Admiral Chawalit Itsarangkun Na Ayutthaya
33. General Chatchom Kanlong
34. Chatchawan Aphibansi
35. Lieutenant General Chainarong Nunphakdi
36. Lieutenant General Chaiyawut Simat
37. Lieutenant General Chan Hanyut
38. Chatchua Kannasut
39. Chuwong Chayabut
40. Lieutenant General Chettha Thanacharo
41. Lieutenant General Choetchai Thiratthanon
42. Vice Admiral Chieo Rotchanachala
43. Rear Admiral Chokchai Phonlachai
44. Chokchai Aksaranan
45. Major General Chamnan Phasunan
46. ACM Danai Morin
47. Air Vice Marshal Dutsadi Praphatthong
48. Dusit Siriwan
49. M.L. Trithotsayut Thewakun
50. Air Marshal Thawon Koetsin
51. Lieutenant General Thawon Rattanawadi
52. Lieutenant General Thawan Sawaengphan
53. Major General Thakoeng Mungthanya
54. Admiral Songsit Kittiphirachon
55. Thawi Nunphakdi
56. Major General Thawisak Nunphakdi
57. Lieutenant General Thawisit Sangsomwong
58. Lieutenant General Thotsaphon Songsuwan
59. Thatsana Bunthong
60. Thinnaphan Nakhata
61. Thanin Chiarawanon
62. Thamnun Latphli
63. Admiral Thawatchai Kosonnawin
64. Thawatchai Yongkittikun
65. Air Vice Marshal Thanin Fungkhachon
66. Tharin Nimanhemin
67. Major General Thithiphong Chennuwat
68. Air Marshal Thisin Kamphiriyanon
69. General Thian Chonmaitri
70. Air Vice Marshal Thamrong Charoenrat
71. Air Marshal Nakhon Phibunsawat
72. Lieutenant General Nop Phinsaikaeo
73. Noraniti Setthabut
74. Khunying Nanthaka Supraphatanan
75. Khunying Niramon Suriyasat
76. Bodi Chunnanon
77. General Banchop Bunnak
78. Police General Bunchu Wangkanon
79. Major General Bunrot Somthat
80. Burapha Atthakon
81. Lieutenant General Prachuap Saengthawip
82. Lieutenant General Pramon Phalasin
83. Prasong Khositanon

84. Prasop Rattanakon
85. Prachai Lieophairat
86. Admiral Prachum Khruawan
87. ACM Prachum Chaisiri
88. Admiral Praphat Kritsanachan
89. ACM Praphan Thupatemi
90. Rear Admiral Prasan Chantharatsami
91. Air Marshal Prawit Photchanapraphan
92. Vice Admiral Prawit Palasi
93. Admiral Prawit Siwarak
94. Air Vice Marshal Pracheon Bunnak
95. Prasoet Bunsi
96. Major General Prasoet Phakcharoen
97. Admiral Prasoet Sanrit
98. Air Chief Marshal Prayat Dityasarin
99. Prasoet Prasatthong-osot
100. Lieutenant General Pricha Rotchansen
101. Vice Admiral Pricha Sanguanchua
102. Admiral Prida Kalasut
103. M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun
104. Patchai Bunnak
105. Piya Phiromphakdi
106. Lieutenant General Phaeo Phaeophisakun
107. Phaothep Uppakannitikaset
108. Major General Phanom Chinawicharana
109. Air Marshal Phanom Thiratsawathi
110. Phonthep Phonprapha
111. Lieutenant General Phopsuk Sutharanan
112. Vice Admiral Phayung Phadungnawin
113. Phatchara Yuttithamdamrong
114. Phakphian Wiriyaphan
115. Phanit Charoenphao
116. Pharon Itsarasena Na Ayutthaya
117. Phichai Watsanasong
118. General Phichit Kunlawanit
119. Air Chief Marshal Phisit Salikhup
120. Phisit Phakkasem
121. Phrao Niwatwong
122. Phunsak Wannaphong
123. Phaichit Pawabut
124. Phaibun Changrian
125. Phaibun Limpaphayom
126. Lieutenant General Phaibun Hongsinlak
127. Lieutenant General Phaibun Emaphan
128. Lieutenant General Phairot Chanurai
129. Phairot Piamphongsan
130. Phairot Lamsam
131. Vice Admiral Phairot Santiwetchakun
132. Phaisan Kumalawisai
133. Phaisit Phiphatthanakun
134. Phraisan Chitprasoetsuk
135. Lieutenant General Mongkhon Amphonphisit
136. Manat Niyomsapmani
137. Mahidon Chantharangkun
138. Vice Admiral Mattra Amphaiphat
139. Khunying Mali Sanitwong Na Ayutthaya
140. Michai Ruchuphan
141. Yongyut Tanphiriyakun
142. Lieutenant General Yingyot Chotphimai
143. Yut Kingket
144. Lieutenant General Yutthana Khamdi
145. Major General Yutthaphan Makkaramani
146. Air Vice Marshal Rangsan Thikhara
147. Rungtham Latphli
148. Lakkhana Saengsanit
149. Lieutenant General Loet Phungphak
150. Air Chief Marshal Woranat Aphichari
151. Lieutenant General Wachira Suriyakun Na Ayutthaya
152. Police Second Lieutenant Wan Chansu
153. Watthana Rattanawichit
154. Lieutenant General Watthana Sanphanit
155. General Wanchai Ruangtrakun
156. Lieutenant General Wanlop Chitareok
157. General Wimon Wongwanit
158. Vice Admiral Winyan Santiwisat
159. General Wichit Sukmak
160. Wichit Suphinit
161. Wichai Thosuwanchinda
162. General Wichit Bunyawat
163. Wichu Tanthasiri
164. Admiral Wichet Karunyawanit
165. Withun Phatthralaoha
166. Rear Admiral Winai Naiyananon
167. Winai Sama-un
168. Major General Winit Krachangson
169. Wira Romayarup
170. Air Vice Marshal Wirat Wiwatthanakun
171. Wirun Techaphaibun
172. Wilat Singhawisai
173. Wirot Nuankhae
174. Police Lieutenant General Wirot Pao-in
175. General Wirot Saengsanit
176. Wirot Amatakulachai
177. General Wisit Atkhumwong
178. Witsanu Khrua-ngam
179. Wikit Wiranuwat
180. Air Chief Marshal Wira Kitchathon
181. Wira Pitrachat
182. Wiraphong Ramangkun
183. Air Marshal Wiraphong Singhaseni
184. Wina Choetbunchat
185. Sakprayun Dima
186. General San Siphen
187. General Sirin Thupklam
188. Sirichai Bunlakun
189. Air Chief Marshal M.R. Siriphong Thongyai
190. Supphachai Phanitchaphak
191. Lieutenant General Sakan Sathityutthakan
192. Police Lieutenant General Somkhuan Harikun
193. Somchet Thinnaphong
194. Somchai Wutthipricha
195. Vice Admiral Somnuk Thepphawan
196. Admiral Somnuk Rakson
197. Rear Admiral Somphong Sirihong
198. Major General Somphan Bunkangwan
199. Somphop Hotrakit
200. Lieutenant General Somphot Sunthonmani
201. Air Marshal Somsak Kutsalasai
202. Air Marshal Somsak Wesuwan
203. Somsak Lisawattrakun
204. Major General Somsak Saengchanloet
205. Major General Sommai Wichawon

206. Sansoen Kraichitti
207. Sansoen Uthaichaloem
208. Suang Aksaranukhro
209. Rear Admiral Sanit Karunyawanit
210. Sarawut Watcharaphon
211. Police General Sawat Amonwiwat
212. Air Marshal Sa-at Kangwon
213. Air Marshal Samat Sotsathit
214. Major General Samphao Chusi
215. Rear Admiral Samran Amsam-ang
216. Sathaphon Kawitanon
217. Air Marshal Santiphap Muming
218. Lieutenant General Samphan Bunyanan
219. General Sit Chirarot
220. Sirot Panyanuwat
221. Sukkhawit Rangsitphon
222. Suchon Chalikhrua
223. General Suchinda Khraprayun
224. Suchat Howatthanakun
225. Suthi Phengpan
226. Suthikiat Chirathiwat
227. General Suthep Siwara
228. Air Chief Marshal Suthep Theppharak
229. Suthi Singsane
230. Admiral Sunthon Krathet
231. Suphat Liptawat
232. Air Marshal Suraphat Chopkolasuk
233. Major General Surayut Chulanon
234. Air Chief Marshal Surawut Maharom
235. Rear Admiral Surat Rattanaphruk
236. Admiral Surin Thongcharoen
237. Rear Admiral Suwan Khuancharit
238. Suwan Chansom
239. Air Chief Marshal Suwit Chanthapradit
240. Suwit Futrakun
241. Major General Suwinai Boribunnangkun
242. Khunying Suriphan Maniwat
243. Lieutenant General Soemsuk Bunsiriya
244. Major General Hom Holamyong
245. Admiral Phan Sakunphanit
246. Police Lieutenant General Ong-at Phutphat
247. Air Vice Marshal Amarit Chariyaphan
248. Lieutenant General Adison Supphasamut
249. Anan Kanchanaphat
250. Air Chief Marshal Anan Kalintha
251. Anan Anantakun
252. Anuwat Limsuwan
253. Anusak Bunpranai
254. Air Vice Marshal Akkharachai Sakunrattana
255. Abdul Wahab Abdul Wahab
256. Asif Benhawan
257. Lieutenant General Anuphap Songsunthon
258. Lieutenant General Ariya Ukhotkit
259. Asa Meksawan
260. Amnat Son-imsat
261. General Itsaraphong Nunphakdi
262. Ukrit Mongkhonnawin
263. Colonel Udom Thawiwat
264. Major General Udom Hemawichit
265. Uthai Sutsuk
266. Rear Admiral Uthan Mongkhonnawin
267. Ekkachai Ekhankamon
268. Air Vice Marshal Anek Suwannabuppha
269. Lieutenant General Uam Manorat
270. Osot Kosin.

The announcement takes effect as of 22 March 1992.

Announced on 22 March 1992, being the 47th year of the present reign,

Countersigned: General Sunthon Khongsomphong, Chairman of the National Peace-keeping Council.

'Elite' Gain in Senate

BK2303015592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Mar 92 p 1

[Text] Thailand's economic elite—in the list of 270 senators announced yesterday—have been given what is possibly their strongest ever representation in an Upper House that preserves the tradition of military dominance.

Top bankers, industrialists and businessmen join a Senate that does more than participate in lawmaking but has powers politicans have pledged to trim when elected.

Under the Constitution passed despite controversy late last year, senators are empowered to vote out individual Cabinet ministers in a no-confidence motion and to take part in general debates on government policy.

The president of the Senate is the president of the bicameral Parliament that was restored with yesterday's general election of 360 members of the House of Representatives and appointment of 270 senators.

The National Legislative Assembly (NLA), appointed by the National Peace-keeping Council (NPKC) after it seized power in February last year, was considered to have completed its duty with these events.

The royal appointment of senators, countersigned by NPKC chairman Sunthon Khongsomphong, was announced over Radio Thailand at 3 p.m. yesterday—the deadline for the closure of polling booths.

The economic elite in the Senate includes Tharin Nimmanhemin, president of the Siam Commercial Bank; Pharon Itsarasena na Ayutthaya, president of Siam Cement; Thanin Chiarawanon, chairman of the Charoen Phokkhaphan Group; and Sutthikiat Chirathiwat of the Central Group.

They are joined by Piya Phiromphakdi of Bunrod Brewery; Phonthep Phonprapha of the Siam Motors Group; Phairot Piamphongsan of Ban Chang Land and House; Anan Kanchanapat of Bangkok Land; Sirichai Bulakun of MBK property development; textile industrialist Wirot Amatakunchai and Prasoet Prasatthaongosot of Bangkok Airways.

With the exception of Mr Pharon and Mr Sirichai, they are all newcomers to the Senate that succeeds the Upper House that went out with the dissolution of Parliament last Ferbruary.

Other newcomers in the business elite include bankers Wirun Techaphaibun of the Metropolitan Bank and Wirot Nuankhae of Phatthara Thanakit Finance. They join Wira Romayarup of the Bangkok Bank who was in the previous Senate.

Central Bank Governor Wichit Suphinit also has a seat in the Upper House, which has a slightly large proportion of civilians than its predecessor.

Of the 270 members, 116 are civilians, the rest being mainly military officers, followed by counterparts in the police force. The 263-member senate of 1990 featured 105 civilians.

Ministers and senior civil servants, officials of the NLA, academics, members of the Press, labour unions, lawyers, doctors, Muslims and women have token representatives in the Upper House.

Among the ministers and senior civil servants in the new Upper House are Finance Minister Suthi Singsane, Deputy Finance Minister Wiraphong Ramangkun and Interior Permanent Secretary Anan Anantakun.

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun's secretary-general, Sathapon Kawithanon, who is also secretary-general to the Board of Investment, and the premier's deputy secretary-general, Witsanu Krua-ngam, are also appointed to the Senate.

Officials attached to the NLA include its President, Ukrit Mongkhonnavin, Deputy president Asa Meksawan and adviser Osot Kosin.

Academics include Thammasat University Rector Noranit Setthabut and noted economist Supphachai Phanitchaphak, president of the Thai Military Bank.

Suchinda Retains Post in Military Reshuffle

BK2203023492 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Mar 92 pp 1, 3

[Text] Gen Suchinda Khraprayun stays as Army commander-in-chief and Supreme Commander contrary to widespread speculation, according to the mid-year military reshuffle order announced yesterday.

Except for Deputy Navy Chief Adm Thawatchai Kosonnawin, who will be transferred to Navy headquarters, all top Armed Forces' commanders remain virtually unaffected by the reshuffle effective on April 1.

It was widely speculated that Gen Suchinda might choose the mid-year reshuffle as a chance to relinquish his Army post to allow the rise of his brother-in-law, Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, to assume Army leadership.

The speculation gained weight when former Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong told reporters last week he favoured either Gen Suchinda Khraprayun or Air Force Chief ACM Kaset Rotchananin to assume the premiership if political parties contesting the election fail to agree among themselves on a choice for prime minister.

Both Gen Suchinda and Gen Itsaraphong, as well as other top military commanders, remain unaffected by the reshuffle order announced on Radio Thailand yesterday.

The reshuffle sees the rise of a number of better-known Army officers, including deputy commander of the Special Warfare Command headquarters, Maj-Gen Surayuth Chulanon, who is promoted to unit commander with the rank of lieutenant-general.

Anti-aircraft Artillery Division Commander Maj-Gen Samphao Chusi is appointed commander of the recently-formed Anti-Air Warfare Commander Unit.

Maj-Gen Sathian Sinlapasomsak of Army headquarters is promoted to Fourth Army Region deputy commander, succeeding Maj-Gen Phanthep Phuwanatnurak, who is transferred to become Third Army Region deputy commander.

Maj-Gen Sitthichai Prathuangthin of Army headquarters is also promoted to Fourth Army Region deputy chief.

First Army Region Chief-of-Staff Maj-Gen Wirayut Duangnimit is appointed First Army Corp deputy commander succeeding Maj-Gen Watthanabunyasit, who is switched to become the First Army Region deputy commander.

Army Engineering Department assistant commander Maj-Gen Wisanu Udomsorayut is promoted to commander of the First Army Development Division.

Maj-Gen Bunrot Somthat, Chief-of-Staff of the Special Warfare Commander Unit, is appointed commander of the Second Special Warfare Division.

Maj-Gen Suchin Ubonwat of Army headquarters is promoted to director of Phra Mongkutklao Hospital.

Maj-Gen Thakoeng Mungthanya, commander of the Anti-Air Warfare Centre, is appointed commander of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery Division.

Navy Deputy Commander-in-Chief Adm Thawatchai Kosonnawin is transferred to Navy headquarters and will be succeeded by Adm Prachum Khruawan, commander of the Royal Fleet.

Vice-Admiral Chochong Chotchuang of Navy Headquarters is promoted to assistant navy chief, while Royal Fleet Deputy Commander Vice-Admiral Santiphap Muming is promoted to Royal Fleet commander.

Vice-Admiral Santiphap will be succeeded by Royal Fleet Chief-of-Staff Vice-Admiral Prachet Siridet.

Rear-Admiral Prathuang Im-arom of navy headquarters is promoted to deputy commander of the Royal Fleet.

Three senior navy officers are promoted to fill the top post of three newly-established navy commander headquarters—First, Second and Third navy Regions which are part of the Royal Fleet's restructuring.

The new commanders are Rear-Admiral Suwan Khuancharit, Rear-Admiral Uran Mongkhonnawin and Rear-Admiral Chawalit Itsarangkun na Ayutthaya respectively. The three officers are now attached to Navy headquarters.

The three new navy regions are established along the same structure as the Army regional headquarters.

The three new Navy regional headquarters will be under the commanding line of the Royal Fleet.

There are no major changes in the Air Force, according to the reshuffle list.

At Supreme Command headquarters, Joint Security Commander Lt-Gen Thawon Rattanawadi is promoted to chief of the Supreme Commander's Staff officers.

Information Department chief Lt-Gen Wanlop Chittaphruk is transferred to be attached to Supreme Command headquarters and will be succeeded by Maj-Gen Anuson Krisanaserani, now a staff officer of the Army Commander's Office.

Former Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon's close aide, Maj-Gen Phairot Phanitsamai of the Supreme Command headquarters is promoted to director of the Institute of Psychological Security of the National Defence College.

Another of Gen Prem's close aides, Maj-Gen Ut Buangbon of Army headquarters, is transferred to a position at the Defence Permanent Secretary's Office on April 1 to assume the rank of lieutenant- general. He is ordered transferred in a separate order yesterday to return to the Army on April 2.

Two former "Young Turks" who had been dismissed from the Army because of their involvement in the "April Fool" coup d'etat in 1981—Col Nansak Khomphairi and Col Phanlop Pinmani—who were later reinstated, are also promoted.

Both are attached to the Supreme Command headquarters and will be given the rank of major-general as of April 1.

Prime Minister Urges People To Vote 22 Mar

BK2203013692 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Text] In his address telecast by Thai TV Pool nationwide yesterday evening, Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun reviewed the performance of his government and bade farewell to the people. He said:

[Begin recording] We do not think that we are special. We do not think that everything we have done must always be correct nor must it please the general public. Shortcomings and mistakes can occur any time and have occurred in my government. However, once a shortcoming or mistake is made, I must have enough courage to admit it to the Thai people and try to correct it. Criticism either from the mass media or other sources has been accepted for consideration. If such criticism is based on unbiased facts and not designed to serve personal interests, we accept it for consideration. If we deem it reasonable, my government would endeavor to make improvements or corrections accordingly. At the same time, there has been criticism which is unfair to us. At any event, we must be patient. To be a prime minister, in particular prime minister of Thailand, is not an easy job. It is not easy to try to please the Thai people. The Thai people change their mind quickly and are bored easily. I have tried to practice restraint and be patient. I keep reminding myself that the people did not choose me to be prime minister. I was invited to take the post but I am the one who made the final decision. When I decided to accept the premiership, I knew well what sort of situation I would encounter. I knew well that it was impossible to satisfy everyone with my work in the one-year period. I knew well the difficulties and harships I would face. However, the encouragement the people have rendered to me in form letters or reception wherever I visited has convinced me that although there are liars and groundless accusations in Thai society, the majority of the Thai people are good. [end recording]

Touching on the achievements of the government during its tenure, the prime minister said:

[Begin recording] We have been trying to develop our country to secure both stability and social justice through income distribution. We have worked out plans to develop agriculture and combat poverty. Our government sincerely sympathizes with the poor and uneducated people. The policies and various measures we have implemented and some 270 laws passed by the National Assembly have yielded some concrete results. However, many of them have not yet yielded any results. We will have a few years to see their fruits. I do not think that we will fail to achieve something that is good and fair to Thai society. [end recording]

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun appealed to the Thai eligible voters to exercise their voting right today. He said:

[Begin recording] I appeal to everyone to exercise his voting right. During the past 60 years, we have been complaining about this matter. Sometimes, we make fun of the democratic system. This system has been on and off for a long time. But it has been proved that during the past 60 years, we have made much progress in building up this system. At present, the world has realized the significance and necessity of the democratic system. What happened during the past five years has clearly proved the failure of communism or even so-called socialism. Although everyone admires its theory, communism, in practice, has failed to bring progress and prosperity to any society or country in accordance with the aspiration of the people. [end recording]

Anan Repeats Refusal To Continue as PM

BK2103020192 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Mar 92 p A4

[Text] Caretaker Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun repeated yesterday that he does not want to remain in the chief executive post after the general election.

And he dismissed speculation that he might be wooed to become a nonpartisan head of a coalition government following the poll.

"I have never considered being the next prime minister," he said. "I have said this a hundred times."

An opinion poll commissioned by THE NATION revealed that Anan was the second most popular leader among Thailand's educated class, after Phalang Tham leader Chamlong Simuang, though most people covered in the survey said they wanted to see an MP become the next prime minister.

Anan, a former diplomat and leading business executive who called his unexpected rise to the premiership "the greatest accident in Thai history", has led what is generally considered one of Thailand's cleanest and most efficient governments.

The military which installed Anan as interim prime minister after the February coup last year is floating the idea that the government to be formed after tomorrow's general election can be led by a non-MP figure if he is qualified for the job.

National Peacekeeping Council Chairman Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, who apparently has the right to nominate the new prime minister, has announced he wants a military man to assume the top post if no political party can win a clear-cut majority in the election.

Anan said he did not expect either Sunthon or political parties to offer him the job.

"Will I be offered the post? I don't think that's possible," he said.

He played down a statement by government spokeswoman Laddawan Wongsiwong quoting him as implying that he could serve as prime minister again.

"I don't remember exactly what I said But I meant that anybody could become prime minister and that being a premier was a job acceptable to me," he said.

Anan emphasized that he did not love the top executive position.

"I can work in the post but I could never love it. I'd never want to turn it into a career or live with it forever. A man who remains in a position for a long time must love it. But I don't love this position," he said.

He admitted he could not explain precisely why he did not like the post.

"I just like something simple. I like work which allows me to do my best, honestly and openly."

Political Leaders Call for Compromise on PM

BK2103012792 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Mar 92 p A1

[Text] Three political leaders last night called for the election of the new House speaker before the nomination of the next prime minister amidst reports that National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC) Chairman Gen Sunthorn Khongsomphong would move swiftly towards the appointment of the country's top executive post.

Chuan Likphai, leader of the Democrat Party, Prachakon Thai leader Samak Suntharawet and Phalang Tham Party leader Maj Gen Chamlong Srimuang all called for a "compromise" solution to the apparent constitutional ambiguity of who—the NPKC chief or the speaker—would undertake the task of presenting the nomination to the premiership to His Majesty the King.

The three leaders were responding to a question posted by the Nation Editor in Chief Suthichai Yun in a special TV programme which hooked up leaders of five parties from their simultaneous rally sites in Bangkok and Samut Prakan to Channel 9 studio last night.

Also taking part was New Aspiration Party leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Muanchon Party leader Pol Capt Chaloem Yubamrung.

Sunthon earlier had said he would consult the leaders of the political parties immediately after Sunday's election on the nomination issue if none of them won majority support in the House.

His remarks fuelled speculation that the NPKC would move swiftly towards the appointment of the new prime minister in order to nip in the bud a possible outbreak of demonstrations against the appointment of an NPKC leader to the premiership. Such a swift move would deprive the new House the chance of electing the new speaker.

Chuan repeated his proposal that the NPKC chairman should first let the speaker sound out the opinions of party leaders in the House over the nomination issue and later relay the political leaders' majority agreement to His Majesty the King for royal appointment.

A provisional clause in the Constitution indicates that the outgoing NPKC chairman would nominate the post election prime minister while a permanent stipulation makes it clear that the speaker is empowered to carry out the constitutional duty.

Chamlong, addressing a rally at the Royal Plaza, said that the NPKC chairman and the new speaker should work out an agreement to find a way out of the constitutional row after the polls.

Samak, at his rally site in Samut Prakan, suggested that the NPKC chairman and the new speaker together seek an audience with His Majesty the King.

"One way to solve the problem is for the NPKC chairman to present the nomination to His Majesty in the presence of the speaker, who would countersign the royal appointment," he said.

But he stressed that the more important point was that MPs should be allowed to work out an agreement on the next prime minister without interference by the NPKC.

At their last major campaign rallies before the election, the political leaders took each other to task for their last ditch efforts to woo voters to their candidates.

Chawalit distinguished his party from the others in the fold by stressing that his party was the only one with the platform and ideology to "establish" democracy, which he said was still lacking. The others, he said, only had policies of "improving democracy".

He said his party wanted to pluck Thai politics from the present vicious political circle which he blamed for the past 15 coups in Thailand's contemporary history.

"If we don't build up real democracy, we won't have any land to stand on. Our nation will be finished. This is your last chance," he declared emotionally.

Chuan, apparently rapping the NAP, [New Aspiration Party] said: "Those who said they wanted to eliminate vote buying are heavily buying votes."

"Ours is not an ad hoc party formed just to serve anybody's political ambition," he said, drawing loud applause from his supporters.

In a running battle of words with Chamlong, Samak lashed out at a party playing on the campaign theme that its leader would have a chance of becoming prime minister.

"This kind of campaign statement indicates that others are not qualified for the premiership and misleads the people into thinking that this is a presidential system, and not a parliamentary one," he said.

He said his party candidates should be elected because the party had studied national problems, knew their causes and their solutions.

Samak also described as a "mudslinging game" the accusation that he was an aggressive politician.

Chamlong, defending the campaign poster portraying him with raised fist, said that the poster was selected by the party's public relations committee, and that it did not accurately reflect his whole character.

He said the committee had good reasons for its choice and he had to listen, otherwise he would be accused of being a dictatorial leader.

He called on voters to show up in full force at polling stations and repeated his campaign message: "Please elect MPs, and the prime minister at the same time."

He said he offered himself as a candidate for the premiership because an incipient political crisis is looming as a result of attempts to make an outsider prime minister.

Pro-Military Parties Huddle To Form Coalition

BK2203010192 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Mar 92 p A1

[Text] The Samakkhi Tham and Chat Thai parties, which together won more than 150 House seats in the general election, late last night appeared to move swiftly to form a coalition with smaller parties while the New Aspiration [NAP], Democrat and Phalang Tham parties declared they would not accept a non-elected premier.

Political leaders from the Chat Thai, Samakkhi Tham, Prachakon Thai and Social Action parties went to a Royal Thai Air Force guest house for what were believed to be behind-the-scenes negotiations with power brokers on the nomination of the next prime minister.

National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC) Chairman Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, Air Force Commander in Chief ACM Kaset Rotchananin and Deputy Army Commander in Chief Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi were also reportedly at the guest house last night.

Political leaders seen visiting the guest house included Chat Thai leader ACM Sombun Rahong, Samakkhi Tham secretary general Sqn Ldr Titi Nakhonthap, Social Action Party (SAP) leader Montri Phongphanit, Deputy Chat Thai leader Sano Tinthong, Samakkhi Tham deputy leader Somphong Amonwiwat, Prachakon Thai leader Samak Suntharawet and Prachakon Thai deputy secretary general Pakit Phatthanakun.

Sunthon is empowered by a provisional clause in the controversial Constitution to present the nominee for the premiership to His Majesty the King.

The late-night negotiations fuelled speculation that the parties would support Supreme Commander Gen Suchinda Khraprayun as prime minister.

The frantic activity to form the next coalition came as unofficial results of the election became known last night.

The breakdown of House seats, according to unofficial results reported by Bank Krung Thai, was: 78 for Samakkhi Tham, 72 for the NAP, 73 for Chat Thai, 45 for the Democrat Party, 43 for the Phalang Tham Party, 30 for the Social Action Party (SAP), 7 for Prachakon Thai, 4 for Ratsadon, 6 for Solidarity and one each for Muanchon and Puangchon Chaothai.

Based on the unofficial results, Samakkhi Tham, Chat Thai, SAP and Prachakon Thai would have combined support of 188 MPs, only a slim majority in the 360-member House of Representatives.

Political sources said the trouble shooters behind the formation of the government, with Chat Thai and Samakkhi Tham at the core, would go ahead with attempts to support Suchinda if it became certain they have majority support, however slim it might be.

"They think they can expect support from the 270-member Senate which was appointed yesterday afternoon," one political source said.

Meanwhile, leaders of NAP, Democrat and Phalang Tharm parties unequivocally stated their position that they would not join a coalition government if the prime minister was not an elected MP.

Amidst speculation the NAP could be wooed to join the Chat Thai-Samakkhi Tham core, NAP leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, who was elected for the first time in Nonthaburi, said the biggest party should be given priority in forming the coalition government.

But he said it was not mandatory that the leader of the biggest party became prime minister.

"It depends on how they (the prospective partners) agree on who would be nominated for the premiership," he said.

But if the prime minister was not an MP, NAP would be in the Opposition, he said.

However, Chawalit admitted there were contacts between his men and all parties, including Samakkhi Tham.

Democrat Party leader Chuan Likphai said his party would stick to its campaign stand against the nomination of an outsider to the premiership.

He said he would fly to Bangkok in a few days to chair a party executive committee meeting on the question of the new prime minister.

He also issued a stern warning to the NPKC.

"If the NPKC is still worried about retaining its power for fear of revenge by politicians, it may succeed in the short term. But in the long run, they would not be able to survive," he said.

"I would like to see career soldiers stay in their barracks," he said, reflecting apprehension that the appointment of an NPKC officer would spark widespread public discontent.

Chuan and Chawalit shared the position that the NPKC should let political parties try to strike an agreement on the nomination for the premiership and the formation of the next coalition government before the NPKC chairman stepped in.

Chawalit said he had talked with Sunthon when the NPKC chairman dropped by his Nonthaburi residence earlier yesterday.

"I asked him about the procedures for nominating the next prime minister and he said that he wanted political leaders to work out an agreement first. And I agreed with him," he said.

Chamlong, meanwhile, also said he would let the bigger parties initiate moves to form the next government.

He reiterated that his party would not accept an outsider as prime minister and said the new Cabinet must not be dominated by corrupt politicians unacceptable to the public. The coalition partners must also share the same political will to push for urgent constitutional amendments, he said.

Chuan, in a separate interview, reaffirmed his party's stand to consider constitutional amendments as an urgent matter.

Chamlong said the NAP contacted him last Saturday to discuss the possible formation of a coalition government.

He did not elaborate. But he said Phalang Tharm would not like to participate in a ruling coalition if there were more than four parties.

Prospective partners in this political camp are the NAP, Democrat and Solidarity parties. However, the four parties command only 166 House seats, according to the unofficial results.

Gen Suchinda's whereabouts last night was shrouded in mystery. Earlier in the day Suchinda reportedly had a quiet lunch with Gen Itsaraphong at the First Army Region headquarters.

Suchinda and Itsaraphong arrived at the regional army headquarters in the compound of Suan Runrudi in a convoy of seven automobiles at about 1 pm.

Reporters were banned from attending the event. The two generals dined with Police Director General Pol Gen

Sawat Amonwiwat, First Army Region Commander Lt Gen Phaibun Hongsinlak and other senior police and military officers.

NPKC Chief Supports Chawalit for Premier

BK2303013592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Mar 92 p A9

[Text] National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] Chairman Sunthon Khongsomphong, armed with a hotly-disputed constitutional right to name the next prime minister, sprang a surprise yesterday by visiting New Aspiration Party [NAP] leader Chawalit Yongchaiyut at his residence.

Sunthon, speaking to reporters afterwards, said in a humorous aside he would back Chawalit, who is his ex-boss, for the top executive post if the NAP emerged with the most parliamentary seats in yesterday's poll.

Known for his bluntness, Sunthon, when asked who he would support as the new prime minister, said: "Who else on earth should I support if not my boss and friend?"

Gen Sunthon also said he would not intervene in the selection of the next prime minister if political parties can settle the question among themselves.

Gen Sunthon's remarks yesterday deviated from his earlier statements that he would nominate either Supreme Commander Gen Suchinda Khraprayun or Air Force Commander in Chief ACM Kaset Rotchanin as prime minister. He described them as the two persons "whom I can trust".

He had also threatened to unilaterally name the next prime minister if political parties refused to cooperate with him.

Sunthon visited Chawalit at the latter's residence yesterday morning and described the unexpected 40-minute meeting as "normal".

Chawalit, the former army commander in chief tipped as a candidate for the premiership, has been actively campaigning on the theme of an "MP for premier".

Speaking to reporters with Chawalit at his side, Sunthon said the new prime minister must be someone "acceptable" to the people.

Sunthon said poll results would tell who should be the new head of the government.

Sunthon's apparent wavering on the question of the premiership came amidst calls by students and politicians for the next prime minister to be an elected MP.

But Sunthon yesterday reiterated his constitutional right to nominate the prime minister for His Majesty the King's approval.

Major political parties on Friday suggested that Sunthon allow the elected House of Representatives to work out the nomination to be presented to the King.

There have been fears Sunthon would move swiftly to appoint the prime minister to pre-empt a possible outbreak of anti-military demonstrations.

"The constitution assigns me, in my capacity as NPKC chairman, to present the name of the new prime minister to HM [His Majesty] the King. And I doubt the House speaker can take over the responsibility," Sunthon said.

He reconfirmed his earlier call for party leaders to meet him after the poll to discuss the nomination.

But he said he had not yet formally invited any party leader.

"I just thought I should invite them to discuss the matter. But this is not an order to anyone. I'm just floating my message through the mass media. And they (the party leaders) don't have to come if they don't want to," he said.

The retired general complained that the press had distorted his political message.

"I said I would let political parties pick the prime minister first and that if they cannot reach an agreement, then I will invite them to disccuss the matter," he said.

Bank Reports Large Cash Transfer Before Election

BK2103030992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Mar 92 p A2

[Excerpt] A Bank of Thailand report shows that about Bt3 billion [Baht] has been transferred out of Bangkok to the provinces in the past few weeks, suggesting an increased demand for fresh funds for the final round of the election campaign.

A central bank source said deposits in the banking system transferred back from provincial bank branches into Bangkok were only Bt6 billion at the end of February whereas funds from Bangkok to provincial branches amounted to around Bt9 billion, leaving about Bt3 billion in the provinces.

He said normally at the end of every month, banks will transfer Bt8-10 billion to the provinces but this amount would return to Bangkok within seven or eight days. The situation was clearly different late last month.

"We could guess that the funds were used in election campaigns," he said.

Political analysts have predicted that in the last week of the campaign season there would be heavy spending to get votes. Politicians have reportedly had to pay more for votes this time, up from Bt100 a person to Bt250-Bt300.

Social worker Pratip Ungsongtham said that in the Klong Toey slum the price of a vote has jumped to Bt500 and each canvasser has been given Bt200,000 to mobilize slum dwellers to vote. Hopeful candidates also have offered consumer their votes.

Prasong Sunsiri, former secretary general of the National Security Council, said in the last election in 1988 about Bt6 billion was spent by politicians, double the amount used in the 1986 election.

Based on the 26 million eligible voters, the spending in this election could rise to Bt10 billion, he said. [passage omitted]

Vietnam

U.S. Airmen Remains Found in Highland Province

BK2303070392 Hanoi VNA in English 0630 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 23—Remains of three American airmen have been found and turned over to proper authorities. The discovery was made recently in an area of Kontum Province, and the finds were delivered on March 17 to the Vietnam MIA Bureau and the American MIA Office in Hanoi. Preliminary testing shows the three men might belong to the crew of a B-26 downed in Kontum on September 1963.

National Assembly Session Set for 23 Mar-11 Apr

BK2003115392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Text] The Office of the National Assembly and the Council of State held a news conference this morning, 20 March, to introduce the contents of the 11th session of the Eighth National Assembly.

Comrade Vu Mao, head of the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of State, presided over the news conference, which was attended by a large number of new agency reporters and press, radio, and television correspondents.

The head of the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of State made known that the session will be held from 23 March-11 April 1992, including one preparatory day. This is the last session of the Eighth National Assembly. The main purpose of this National Assembly session is to examine and approve the revised constitution after the people of various strata have contributed their views. Along with passing the revised constitution, at this session, various laws on the organization of the state apparatus will also be examined and revised to suit the constitution. Also at this session, the National Assembly will discuss and pass two draft laws, namely the draft of the revised law on the organization of the National Assembly and the draft of the revised law on the election of National Assembly deputies.

Comrade Vu Mao stated that for the draft of the revised law on the organization of the government, the draft of the revised law on the People's Court, and the draft of the revised law on the People's Organization of Control, the National Assembly will give its views for the rectification of these draft laws before submitting them to the Ninth National Assembly for approval.

The 11th session of the Eighth National Assembly will also examine the arrangement of revenue and expenditure in the 1992 state budget estimate, the issue of wage reform, and price control of housing in Ho Chi Minh City.

Communique Issued

BK2203160992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Council of State communique on 11th National Assembly session]

[Text] On 21 March 1992, the Council of State met under the direction of Chairman Vo Chi Cong.

1. The council studied one more time the preparatory work for the 11th session of the Eighth National Assembly.

2. The council gave its opinion on the adjustment of the revised draft law on the elections of National Assembly deputies before submitting it to the National Assembly based on the suggestions contributed by the conference of the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] Central Committee and by representatives of the front and administrative bodies of a number of provinces and cities at their conferences in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City on 17 and 18 March 1992.

Foreign Minister in India for Trade Talks

BK2203110092 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 22 Mar 92

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam arrived in New Delhi Saturday [21 March] for a week-long visit to India. On this occasion, the Vietnamese foreign minister will hold talks with the Indian leaders to promote economic and trade relations between Vietnam and India. The Vietnamese foreign minister will also attend a meeting of the Vietnam-India Joint Commission to be held on Tuesday and Wednesday [24 and 25 March].

Reports say India will cooperate with Vietnam in oil and gas prospection and textile. India promised Vietnam 48 million U.S. dollars in aid.

Li Peng Hails Normalization of PRC-SRV Ties

BK2103125792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] According to foreign sources, when delivering an annual activity report at the Chinese People's Congress on 20 March, Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng highly appraised the normalization of relations between China and Vietnam in November last year.

He noted that this normalization has created conditions for the development of the relations of trade, scientific, and technological cooperation between the two countries.

The prime minister also expressed his suppport for ASEAN efforts to promote increased cooperation among countries in the region.

Vo Van Kiet Receives Belarus Delegation

BK1903155592 Hanoi VNA in English 1526 GMT 19 Mar 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 19—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet received here today the visiting Belarussian Government delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister N. Kotikov.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet warmly welcomed the Belarussian guests' visit to Vietnam as a new step of development in the relations between the two countries. He highly appreciated the traditional friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Belarus, which, he said, is a firm basis for the further consolidation and strengthening of the cooperation between the two countries in the new period. He praised the Belarussian people's heroic tradition and expressed his profound gratitude to the Belarussian people as well as other nations of the former Soviet Union for their solidarity with and assistance to the Vietnamese people in national construction and liberation.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet hailed the result of the visit and the agreements and accords reached between the two sides, considering them an important contribution to the strengthening of the existing traditional friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Belarus.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet held that the two countries have great potentials to broaden their cooperation in all fields, particularly the economic, commercial, sciantific and technological and cultural fields. He affirmed the Vietnamese pople's determination to do their utmost to develop their cooperation with Belarus.

For his part, Vice Chairman N. N. Kotikov expressed his joy at visiting Vietnam and highly appreciated Vietnam's successes in its renovation. He affirmed that now as before, the Belarussian people nurture their finest sentiments toward the Vietnamese people and that his government and people have earnestly desired to strengthen the traditional friendship with the Vietnamese people, thus opening a new stage of cooperation between Belarus and Vietnam.

The reception took place in an atmosphere of friendship. Also present at the recaption were Do Quoc Sam, chairman of the State Planning Commission, and Vu Khoan, deputy foreign minister.

Belarus Minister Discusses Ties

BK2003080392 Hanoi VNA in English 0716 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 20—Vietnam is a bridge for Belarus to approach Asian markets, the visiting Belarussian Vice Premier N.N. Kotikov told QUAN DOI NHAN DAN after he signed here yesterday documents of cooperation with the Vietnamese Government.

Asked about the prospect of cooperation between Vietnam and Belarus, he said:

'Vietnam and Belarus will maintain their good relationship, not only the international arena, as the two peoples have had traditional relations based on mutual understanding. In our view, Belarus can cooperate with Vietnam in such domain as mechanical engineering—a traditional industry of Belarus. We have automobile factories called Maz and Bela in Maghilov (which must have been familiar to Vietnam), and big factories producing tractors and farm machines. These products I think are useful for Vietnam. We notice that Vietnam is interested in these machines. For our part, we are very much interested in Vietnam's agriculture, especially in rubber production. We have agreed to cooperate in growing 40,000 hectares of rubber. Through joint ventures, Belarus will manufacture auto tyres to meet Vietnam's great demand for this item. We are also interested in the production of electric, electronic goods and broadcasting techniques. We have toured various production establishments which we think can cooperate with us in these domains. In the past, Belarus exported these products to Vietnam, but mainly for military purpose. Now we will switch to making consumer goods for Vietnam. In trade, Vietnam and Belarus have agreed to open soon a commercial fair in Minsk to exhibit Vietnam's goods exportable to Belarus'.

On Vietnam's role in Belarus' relations with Asia, N.N. Kotikov said:

'We highly appreciate Vietnam's role in Belarus's policy of cooperation with Asian countries. Vietnam is a bridge for us to approach Asian markets. We think that Vietnam will help us in our relations with other Asian countries'.

Delegation Ends Visit

BK2003155392 Hanoi VNA in English 1430 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Excerpts] Hanoi VNA March 20—The governmental delegation of the Republic of Belarus N. N. Kotikov, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, which arrived here on March 18 for a friendship visit, left here for home today. [passage omitted]

During the talks and meeting, the two sides agreed to encourage the expansion of joint ventures between the two countries as well as direct relations between service and production establishments.

The two sides signed an agreement on economic and commercial cooperation and an agreement on the establishment in Vietnam of Skia Enterprises to plant rubber trees and process rubber.

The two sides also discussed goods and service exchanges for 1992 as well as the possiblities of goods standardization between the two countries, including the establishment of the Hanoi-Minsk air link.

The two sides also agreed to create favorable conditions for the production and business organizations of the two countries to implement the signed agreements.

The Belarussian delegation said Belarus [words indistinct] up to its commitment on the continued employment of Vietnamese workers and on training Vietnamese experts in Belarus.

Diplomatic Ties With Lithuania Established

BK1903154692 Hanoi VNA in English
1520 GMT 19 Mar 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 19—The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Republic of Lithuania have established diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level.

A joint communique on the event was signed in Moscow yesterday by Doan Thang, Vietnamese charge d'affaires a.I. in the Russian Federation, and A.Bickauskas, Lithuanian charge d'affaires A'I. in Russia.

Envoy Meets Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister

BK2303072392 Hanoi VNA in English
0703 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 23—Sar Kheng, member of the standing committee of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of the interior of the State of Cambodia, received in Phnom Penh on March 20 Vietnam ambassador to the Supreme National Council (SNC) of Cambodia Tran Huy Chuong.

Ambassador Tran Huy Chuong took this opportunity to reaffirm Vietnam's stance to fully respect the Paris peace agreement on Cambodia and welcomed the State of Cambodia's goodwill in implementing the agreement.

He expressed his joy at the achievements recorded by the Cambodian people in the process of the national concord and national construction as well as at the further consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

The Cambodian vice-chairman spoke of the determination of the people's party and government of the State of Cambodia to fully observe the Paris agreement and maintain their great achievements.

He expressed thanks to the Vietnamese people for their support and assistance to the Cambodian people's just cause for peace and national concord in the past as well as at present. He assured the Vietnamese ambassador of Cambodia's policy to continue promoting the traditional solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Commentary Looks at Trade With Singapore

BK1903044692 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 18 Mar 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] Singaporean Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng said that Singapore will soon open its embassy in Hanoi to promote bilateral ties. Addressing the parliament early this week, the Singaporean diplomatic chief also announced that the Economic Development Board, EDB, would lead a team of Singapore businessmen to Vietnam in May and the Trade Development Board was planning to set up an office in Ho Chi Minh City.

Singapore has become Vietnam's largest trade partner with two-way trade topping U.S.$600 million in 1991, accounting for 30 percent of Vietnam's foreign trade turnover. The relations between the two countries entered a new stage of development following the visit to Singapore by Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet. Singapore has lifted the investment ban on Vietnam and air links between the two countries have started.

Both sides are finalizing agreements on investment in maritime transport and many more Singapore businessmen have come to Vietnam to explore business opportunities.

Singapore, with its economic dynamism, has quickly adapted itself to the changing situation by reassessing its relations with Vietnam. For its part, Vietnam has been going ahead with its renovation. Mr. Robert Chu, president of the Singapore manufacturers' who recently visited Vietnam, affirmed that the Vietnamese Government is firm in the resolve for renovation and economic development along the line of market mechanism. Mr. Chu also held that Singapore businessmen should not procrastinate in the Vietnam market and that they have arrived in Vietnam in time for business opportunities.

In this context, the forthcoming opening of the Singapore Embassy in Hanoi will create (?best conditions) for bilateral ties as is asserted by the Singapore foreign minister and will enable Singapore to share experiences in cooperation with this country.

Army Journal Criticizes Capitalism

BK2103032992 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG
TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Feb 92 pp 37-40

[Colonel Nguyen Van Duc's commentary: "Can We Rely on Capitalism To Make the People Rich and the Country Powerful?"]

[Text] This question has been posed to a certain number of people and quite a few of them, even orthodox leaders of some countries, have given affirmative answers and have placed their hope in this. They think that by leaning on capitalism and meeting its demands, this hope can be realized! Let us see what reality is and then, on this basis, we will come back to some theoretical issues.

Looking at realities in Eastern Europe, one can see that capitalist promises are empty. Capitalists always use the bait of aid to raise false hope only. Many people in those countries have gradually manifested their frustration. Regrettably, there still are people who have not learned necessary lessons.

One cannot blame capitalism because it has operated in line with its law of survival and development—the law of profits. Profits of capitalism are closely linked to competition in which big fishes swallow small ones. The international development of capitalism means expansion abroad and that is imperialism. It exploits and enslaves the people of other countries and turns these countries into colonies. The international alliance of capitalists normally takes shape and develops with many different goals. The alliance is required sometimes to oppose and attack the revolution and socialism, and at other times to allow them to compete with one another, share markets and protectorates, exploit cheap resources and labor, monopolize trade, and so forth. This alliance and the struggle to win markets among capitalists led to the two cruel imperialist wars which mankind has always remembered and will remember forever in the history of human exploitation. When capitalists invest in other countries, they always have to calculate profits and losses. As for "generous" gifts or even loans, they definitely have to take economic and political issues into account. The exchange of dollars for politics is an extremely economical exchange.

Formerly, during the wars of aggression against socialism ranging from the armed intervention by some dozens of capitalist countries aiming to smother the Russian October Revolution to the fascist offensive against the Soviet Union during the World War II and the wars against Korea and Vietnam...aiming to prevent the latter countries from liberating their nations and advancing to socialism, the capitalists spent huge amounts of money and incurred many losses of human life. However, they were still defeated deplorably. Now that some small amounts of dollars permitted them to perform a change in the socialist regime, what profit was in it for them?

However, it is not certain that imperialists will open their purse at one time and even when they have achieved their political schemes, no one will be able to tell that imperialists will keep their promises. In those countries where imperialists have achieved long strides in their political schemes, is there anyone who can see that they have kept their word? When restructure and reform began, the theoretical issues of peace of mankind and of shifting to market economy were raised in a general manner, imperialists immediately welcomed and supported them and promised to give aid. Along with this promise, the imperialists raised the question of waiting for a shift in politics and democracy (evidently bourgeois democracy). They did not merely stop at that, imperialists further accelerated the process to implement pluralism and other institutions just like the machinery of a bourgeois state, giving as a pretext that only by doing so can some results be seen in extending monetary aid!

Of course, it is because of their hope for being given a huge sum of aid money as promised by big capitalist countries that East European countries have had to go along with the imperialists' one demand after another. But how much money have the imperialists handed out? They claimed that what the East European countries have done is fairly good or very good but more improvements are still needed. Alas! That is what the imperialists are like! All imperialists behave the same way. How could there be any change in their nature?

It is necessary to distinctively modify some metaphysical conceptions about capitalism in relation to scientific socialism, taking into account the assertion that the nature of imperialism remains unchanged. For instance, capitalism has been seen as something totally ugly which needs to be completely discarded. Commodity-based production has been regarded as a key to the success of capitalism. And bourgeois democracy has been viewed as totally false, and so forth. These conceptions are incorrect, non-dialectical, and non-historical. It is precisely because of these conceptions that we have failed to sort out and inherit the quintessences of mankind and the expertise of capitalism, such as its management and supervision over the modern economy... (Whereas, capitalism is very keen in studying the experiences gained by socialism so as to rectify itself and maintain its exploitive reign in keeping with the new situation). On the other hand, we should, however, never forget that capitalism is a repressive, exploitive, and unfair regime. Its exploitation of surplus values, both absolute and relative, has been constantly on the rise. This is as easily understandable as the alphabets a, b, and c that there is no need for us, as communists, to seek further explanation.

One may cite "some Asian dragons" as an example. These Asian countries have, indeed, achieved some economic progress. But there is no survey so shallow and so prejudiced to the extent that we fail to see why there are only "four dragons" at a time when there are hundreds of third-world countries which, instead of making some progress, have been caught in a very difficult situation. Why have "dragons" existed only in Asia but not in other continents? To answer these questions, we should examine various economic and political issues. Everyone knows that when the world socialist system was still in place, it covered the two big countries, namely the Soviet Union and China. As the imperialists wished to set up a containing belt to the east of this system, a number of countries strikingly served as an example of capitalism to "attract" the people in various socialist countries. These countries did not face any blockade or embargo by the imperialists. They instead received massive economic, financial, and technical aid from the imperialists because they are in the interest of U.S.-led imperialism. That is why the "dragons" have appeared over there. If we look at the entire world and toward other countries—except for a number of super rich capitalist countries which have, for many centuries now, been exploiting the natural resources and manpower of their colonialized territories—there are millions of people still living in poverty without enough food to eat while their countries' precious and rare natural resources continue to find their way abroad. What they have in their possession is very meagre, and they have, from one generation after another, continued to be "debtees"! On the average, every year hundreds of billions of dollars from poor countries have found their way abroad. As for foreign capital invested in these countries, after deducting their loan interest, a negative figure is all that's left. The more capitalist countries invest in a poor country, the more the latter will become impoverished.

From another standpoint, the viewpoint of relying on capitalism also means dependence on foreign aid. It is totally contrary to the Marxist-Leninist viewpoint that any nation that wants to make its people rich and its country powerful must first of all rely on its own physical and moral strengths and resources. The revolution is an undertaking of the people. A country that stages a revolution or a renovation, restructure, or reform process must first of all depend on the domestic factors of the country. Any nation that possesses a glorious past, will certainly have the spirit of independence, sovereignty, and self-reliance. Russia's success in staging the October Revolution and in defending and developing its revolutionary gains, was owing to the self-denial, courage, and creativity of the working class, the peasants, and the laboring and intellectual people of all strata in Russia under the leadership of the Russian Communist Party. The Soviet Union's success in building socialism and defeating fascism was owing to the solidarity of peoples of all nationalities in the union who united under the CPSU leadership. Vietnam owes its successes in staging the August Revolution, waging the resistance struggles against France and the United States, building socialism as it is now, and carrying out the current renovation process to its people under the Communist Party of Vietnam leadership. A great lesson of the Vietnamese revolution is that all lines, positions, and policies must stem from the realities in Vietnam, from the Vietnamese people, and from the quintessence of the past and the present of the Vietnamese nation. Whenever and wherever these realities are not taken into account, success will be limited and setbacks will ocurr.

President Ho Chi Minh's great idea is that "we must use our own force to liberate ourselves." We must now carry on and develop this idea into the idea of "using our own strength for construction and defense." We do not close our doors, and we advocate the policy of broad and multilateral interchange with capitalist countries. However, we will not be dependent, nor do we think that we must rely on capitalism and foreign countries to build and defend our country. With huge aid but without self-reliance, our sense of dependence would develop even more strongly and make us think purely of using aid to meet the immediate needs of our life, causing a situation of false profits and real losses. Then, our economy would fall into an even worse predicament. Aid received in the spirit of socialist internationalism without any sense of independence, sovereignty, and self-reliance is already extremely bad! What of capitalist aid then—aid that always has political conditions attached?

Australia

Evans Notes E. Timor Annexation 'Irreversible'

BK2003084092 Hong Kong AFP in English 1908 GMT 19 Mar 92

[Text] Geneva, March 19 (AFP)—Indonesia is cutting back on its military presence in East Timor, whose 1975 annexation is "now irreversible," Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said here Thursday.

Evans, addressing a press conference, expressed satisfaction with sanctions taken by Jakarta against military officers following last November's massacre of civilians by Indonesian troops in Dili, the capital of East Timor.

"There is now evidence emerging—which I hope will be confirmed—of a draw-down of military presence" of Indonesian troops in the island, he said.

"The military presence is changing its character with more emphasis on construction type activities," he added.

Evans said that during his recent visit to Jakarta he found there was "a great deal of willingness about long term reconciliation" based on economic reconstruction and job expansion.

"I hope there will be greater recognition of the special character of the Timorese culture, maybe even some degree of autonomy," he added.

Evans said Australia deplored the annexation of the former Portuguese colony but "the annexation is now irreversible."

He said Australia believed "the best way to help the people of East Timor... is not to build up expectations of independence..., but to work with the Indonesians, rather than engaging in politics of grand empty gestures."

Keating Signals Lifting of Sanctions on RSA

BK2003095292 Hong Kong AFP in English 0944 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Text] Canberra, March 20 (AFP)—Australia's Prime Minister Paul Keating sent personal messages Friday to President F.W. de Klerk and African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela signalling early Australian moves to lift economic sanctions, his office said.

Keating told the South African leaders he was confident continued progress towards the adoption of a non-racial constitution would permit early moves towards full restoration of commercial and economic relations between the two countries.

Canberra's policy is to adhere to the sanctions-lifting timetable agreed at last October's Commonwealth summit and to act in concert with other Commonwealth countries. But it is sufficiently flexible to enable sanctions to be lifted at the request of the all-party Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA), which will meet next month.

In his message to Mandela, Keating said he shared the ANC leader's relief and satisfaction at the referendum result.

"It is encouraging to know that the great majority of the white population in South Africa appreciates the urgent need for reform, and supports the historic process on which you, President de Klerk and other South African leaders are embarked," he said.

Congratulates RSA on Referendum

BK2103100292 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 21 Mar 92

[Text] Australia's Prime Minister Paul Keating has formally congratulated South Africa over the outcome of the referendum on reform. He sent a personal message of support to President De Klerk and the African National Congress leader, Nelson Mandela.

Mr. Keating said he is pleased and relieved at the referendum outcome, saying it showed the wish of White South Africans to see the reform process continued. He said he is confident of the full restoration of commercial and economic relations of South Africa along with its continued progress toward the democratic, nonracial constitution.

Fiji

Rabuka Reportedly Blames Last Coup on Premier

BK2003044192 Hong Kong AFP in English 0435 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Text] Suva, March 20 (AFP)—The Army coup that toppled Fiji's last elected government was carried out at the request of today's prime minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, coup leader Sitiveni Rabuka was quoted as saying Friday.

Mara, who lost the general election in April 1987, returned to head a military-backed administration the following November that year but has persistently denied involvement with the two coups of that year.

In the first of these, in May, Rabuka, then a colonel, overthrew the month-old Indian-dominated coalition government headed by Labour Party leader Timoci Bavadra and scrapped the 1970 independence constitution.

Rabuka's second coup, in September 1987, led to the proclamation of a republic under President Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, the former governor-general.

The DAILY POST Friday quoted Rabuka as saying on Thursday that Mara had asked him to carry out the May coup. He was speaking to more than 100 people at a branch meeting in Nadroga province, western Fiji, of his Fijian People's Party, the POST said.

The party was set up last year to contest the general election under the new constitution, which guarantees a parliamentary majority and executive power to the country's large indigenous Fijian minority at the expense of ethnic Indians and other communities.

The election has been scheduled for mid-May.

In what the POST described as an emotional speech, Rabuka also revealed that on one occasion in 1987 Penaia had telephoned him and asked him to hand power back to Bavadra's coalition government.

Rabuka said he told Penaia he could not do this.

"I had started something for the taukei (indigenous people) and I aim to finish, even if it has to last until my death," the POST quoted Rabuka as saying.

"I would rather have my head covered by a black cloth and face a firing squad than end what I had set out to do."

Rabuka said that after the first coup, he had a meeting with Mara and Penaia, where the governor-general said he did not want to see Fiji's links with the British monarchy severed.

Queen Elizabeth was head of state until October 7, 1987, when Rabuka proclaimed a republic, but her effigy appears on coins minted since then, and royal birthdays are celebrated as public holidays here.

At the same meeting, Rabuka claimed, Penaia asked Mara why he had wanted the Army to topple Bavadra's coalition government.

Mara replied that his Alliance Party—which had enjoyed almost uninterrupted power since independence—"did not want to see what they had built destroyed," Rabuka reportedly said.

Rabuka's relationship with Mara has been very strained in recent months.

After installing Mara as prime minister in 1987, Rabuka returned to barracks as a major-general and army commander.

Early last year, he publicly threatened to remove the government by another coup, but subsequently apologised, relinquished his command and joined Mara's administration as deputy premier.

Later still, Rabuka quit the government and assumed the presidency of the Fijian People's Party after defeating Mara's high-born wife Lala in an election for the post.

Rabuka Denies Statement

BK2003121492 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 20 Mar 92

[Text] Fiji's coup leader, Major General Sitveni Rabuka, has denied saying that the prime minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, asked him to stage the 1987 military coup. Our South Pacific correspondent, Erina Reddan, says the denial follows a report in a Fiji newspaper, the DAILY POST.

It has reported that Gen. Rabuka has said that Ratu Mara had asked him to carry out the coup and he did. He is reported as saying that in a meeting following the coup, the then governor general, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, asked Ratu Mara why he had asked for the coup to be carried out. Ratu Mara was said to have replied that he did not want to see everything they had built destroyed.

Gen. Rabuka told the DAILY POST that he had a tape record of his address to a meeting of (?chiefs-sponsored) political party where he was reported to have made his remarks. The DAILY POST is considering whether to stand by its report or issue an apology.

New Zealand

Foreign Minister Blames Burma for Refugee Crisis

BK2303120592 Hong Kong AFP in English 1138 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Wellington, March 23 (AFP)—Initiatives by U.N. Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali to resolve the refugee crisis on the Burma-Bangladesh border were welcomed Monday by New Zealand Foreign Minister Don McKinnon, who blamed Burma.

"What is required above all is an end to the persecution of these people by the Burmese Government, so that the flood of refugees is halted," McKinnon said.

"This is a policy of blatant religious persecution," he said, adding that pressure must be brought on Burma and that he hoped the United Nations would be able to persuade it to allow the refugees to return home.

Statistics Department Reports Trade Deficit

BK2303040092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0227 GMT 23 Mar 92

[Text] Wellington, March 23 (AFP)—New Zealand exports are continuing to rise but imports of aircraft and oil industry equipment have sent the balance of trade into the red by 156.8 million NZ dollars (86.1 million US dollars) in February, the Statistics Department said Monday.

The monthly trade deficit compared with a 6.8 million dollars (3.7 million dollars) surplus in January and a 160.5 million dollars (88.1 million dollars) surplus in February last year.

Imports during the month were 1.63 billion dollars (895 million dollars), which was the highest level recorded since records began. Last February imports were worth 1.23 billion dollars (675 million dollars).

Aircraft and capital goods for the oil industry accounted for about 409.2 million dollars (224.7 million dollars) of the latest monthly figure, the department said in its statement.

Exports in February this year were worth 1.48 billion dolars (813 million dollars), up from 1.17 billion (642 million dollars) in January and 1.39 billion dollars (763 million dollars) in February last year.

Papua New Guinea

Sabumei Urges Solomons To Deter BRA Raids

BK2303103392 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0803 GMT 23 Mar 92

[From the program "International Report"]

[Text] Papua New Guinea [PNG]'s Defense Minister Benais Sabumei said the two recent raids by PNG commandos into the Solomon Islands were regrettable but necessary. However, Mr. Sabumei, who is still waiting for a full report on the unauthorized raids said the PNG defense force must cut supply lines to the Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA]. Our Port Moresby correspondent Brian Abbott reports that Mr. Sabumei has called on the Solomon Islands Government to do more to stop its territory being used by the BRA and its supporters.

[Begin recording] [Sabumei] A lot of islands there, a lot of (?good surveillance), a lot of water, and there is no demarcation on the waters for soldiers to know whether they are in PNG side or Solomon Islands side. We have a geographical human error situation arising.

[Abbott] Regrettable that the raids happened on the sovereign territory of Solomon Islands but necessary to deny essential supplies to the BRA. The justification by PNG's Defense Minister Benais Sabumei for the destruction of a fuel depot on Fauro island by PNG commandos.

[Sabumei] In any situation you got to cut off the supply route of the BRA and their movements, you got to restrict their movements. So that is exactly what we have done.

[Abbott] In the apology delivered to Solomon Islands last Friday by Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu and now Defense Minister Benais Sabumei are (?tampering) they are sorry with the unstated threat to let this be a lesson. PNG has long been concerned of strong sympathy in Solomon Islands for the Bougainville cause. Solomons called a Bougainville office in Honiara, a center for collecting humanitarian aid. Port Moresby labelled it an anti-PNG propaganda office.

The traditional family and trading links between Bougainville and the Solomons have developed in the three years of the secessionist crisis into a flourishing smuggling route with food, fuel, medicine and other supplies being ferried north to overcome the effects of the PNG blockade of the BRA-controlled areas. Port Moresby also complains that aircrafts are flying into Bougainville from the Solomons and Honiara officials should do more to stop the flow of Australian media and activists from getting into BRA-controlled areas through Solomon Islands.

PNG's concern is so great that it threatens the once fraternal relations between the Melanesian neighbors. Defense Minister Sabumei has called on Solomon Islands to do more to prevent its territory being used for what he regards as threats to PNG's sovereignty in Bougainville.

[Sabumei] I want to call on the Solomon Island authorities to sit down with us and come to an arrangement which will be more preventive in its illegal movement of people and goods and whatever. And now since the Solomon Islands do not have the capability or the capacity to deal with that. That does not mean that they cannot... [changes thought] they should make an effort to sign an arrangement and understanding with us so we can deal with a broad range of things that are happening over there.

[Abbot] You would like (?a mission) to go in and help the Solomon Islands prevent their territory being used by the BRA.

[Sabumei] Well, we could have reached some understanding, Brian. What I am saying is I do not want... [changes thought] they should take a lot more firmer action and if their islands are used by the BRA they should come and tell them to go. Not allow them to do it. They should make some resolutions not to allow them or to stay there. These are some broad range of things that they can do. On the one hand it seems as though they are supporting their cause. [end recording]